BULLETIN

THE MAGAZINE OF GOSHEN COLLEGE | SPRING / SUMMER 2026

Emergence

BY **REBECCA J. STOLTZFUS '83,** *President*

"More than a mind factory"

OUR CULTURE IS in a raging debate about higher education. Is college supposed to be an elite intellectual experience? Or focused on the practical and technical skills needed to fuel the economy? Or primarily for research and discovery?

Goshen College is strongly grounded in the idea that it is even more than any of that. As W.H. Cowley said in his defense of the liberal arts college a century ago: "We are more than a mind factory."

A liberal arts education is *liberating*. The purpose of a Goshen education is to develop the capacities of our students to live a life of freedom and meaning. Goshen students have the freedom to explore ideas and disciplines, discover the world and each other, and realize their individual human powers of intellect and creativity and service.

The liberal arts approach at Goshen is further shaped by Anabaptist-Mennonite faith, which means **our students experience freedom in a community that treats you with dignity**, even in failure and mistakes. We learn about forgiveness and grace because we practice it. The human longing for justice, peace and freedom has never been perfectly realized. But this is what we are made for, and what God wants for us: freedom that is personal, economic, structural and spiritual.

While faculty across much of higher education have embraced "liberal neutrality," the idea that educators should not take a position on what is right or virtuous, Goshen College has not. **We believe truth is real and worth seeking, even if our understanding is imperfect**, and we regard each student as a whole person, with dignity, cultural heritage and spirit.

In this age when artificial intelligence is capable of astonishing feats, **we know intelligence alone cannot create the moral and civic renewal we need**. Our communities are aching for discourse that creates dignity for people. As our machines accelerate to speeds we cannot fathom, we ache for Sabbath rest and for each other, whether we know it or not.

Michael Pollan, who writes about nature and culture, recently said: "Despite how it may seem, the internet is not actually the whole of the world. But to AI, it's all you got."

At Goshen College, the internet is not all we've got. That is why **we express our values in our community life as well as our curricula** — compassionate peacemaking, passionate learning, servant leadership, global citizenship — all centered in the abundant love and mercy of Christ.

Goshen College is an intellectual enterprise that connects the arts, humanities, professions and sciences — and it is also a social and spiritual environment, where relationships educate and our community orients to love.

Many years ago, when I was on the Goshen College Board of Directors, a pastor remarked that Goshen is really good at forming good people. Indeed, our students and alumni are doing good in their communities! **Yes, we are more than a mind factory. We form one another to serve the world.**

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GOSHEN COLLEGE

BULLETIN

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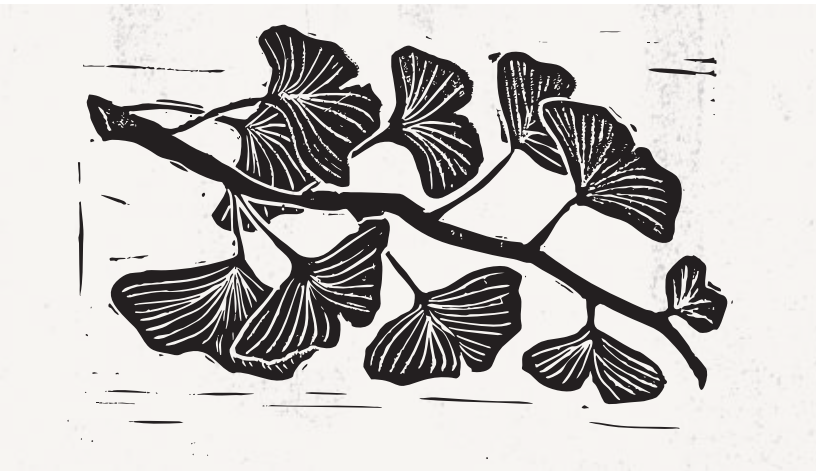
In this issue



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Congratulations to the Class of 2026!

During Commencement 2026, 180 students representing 19 countries joined generations of proud Goshen College alumni ready to lead and serve around the world.

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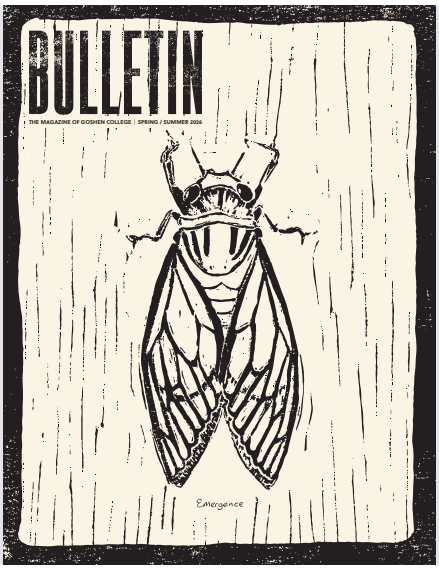
Learning to live well

Six alumni reflect on how their Goshen College education shaped their lives, careers and callings — stories that embody the college's mission of forming courageous, creative and compassionate leaders grounded in academic excellence, real-world experience and active love for God and neighbor.



About the cover

*Print by **Isabel Woodcox '28***

The cover and feature artwork in this issue were created by Isabel Woodcox, a junior environmental science major from Warsaw, Ind. Woodcox began printmaking during her first year at Goshen College and has continued developing her work independently, drawing inspiration from the natural beauty she finds around campus and throughout northern Indiana. From gingko trees to cicadas, her prints focus on the small details of the natural world that are often overlooked. Through simple, thoughtful imagery, Woodcox hopes her work encourages others to slow down, pay attention and notice the beauty woven into everyday life.

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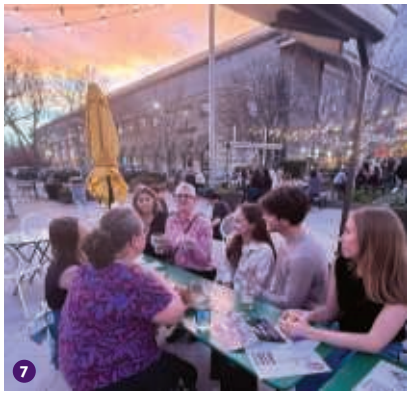
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THANK YOU!

628 DONORS GAVE A TOTAL OF **$280,963**

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2026 CONNECT GOSHEN DAY

On March 24, 2026, GC alumni, students, employees, families and friends came together for a day of generosity, celebration and connection at the largest fundraising event of the year, Connect Goshen Day. Supporters showed up in force, with 628 donors contributing a total of $280,963 to the GC Fund.

Across campus, student-centered activities and thank-a-thons at Westlawn created a festive, high-energy atmosphere, while alumni and friends gathered in 20 locations across the country — and in Canada — to celebrate their shared Goshen experience and appreciation.

The day also featured a range of interactive and creative elements, including online advocacy efforts and the popular opportunity to name campus squirrels, with 131 squirrels receiving names from donors and participants.

While the day itself has passed, the spirit of Connect Goshen Day continues. You can still make a gift to invest in current and future Maple Leafs at

GOSHEN.EDU/GIVE/ONLINE

1. Harrisonburg, Virginia
2. Holmes, Ohio
3. Iowa City, Iowa
4. Goshen, Indiana
5. Elkhart, Indiana
6. Minneapolis, Minnesota
7. Denver, Colorado
8. Chicago, Illinois
9. Archbold, Ohio
10. Lancaster, Pennsylvania
11. Sarasota, Florida
12. Salem, Washington
13. Columbus, Ohio
14. New York City, New York
15. Nashville, Tennessee
16. Indianapolis, Indiana
17. On campus

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FIND MENNO

We heard from 90 of you who correctly found Menno Simons on page 18 of the Fall/Winter 2025 issue of *The Bulletin*! He was nestled among GC alums on the lawn in front of the Harold and Wilma Good Library taking in the Homecoming puppet show by **Peter Eash-Scott '99** (photo 6).

Congratulations to the five lucky winners who were chosen at random to receive a limited-edition Goshen College t-shirt:

1. **Jon Hess** (six family members who attended or worked at GC) *Goshen, Indiana*
2. **Betsy Beyler '70** *Fairfax, Virginia*
3. **Jane Kauffman** (attended GC 1961-62) *West Liberty, Ohio*
4. **Beth Troyer '84** *South Bend, Indiana*
5. **Ted Larrison '68** *Goshen, Indiana*

We love hearing from all of you as you keep your eyes peeled for Menno in each issue of *The Bulletin*. He looks just like the image at top, just smaller! So, when you find him, submit your entry to **gcbulletin@goshen.edu** by September 1, 2026 for a chance to win. Be sure to include your name, address, T-shirt size and graduation year/affiliation with Goshen College.

Campus News

1700 SOUTH MAIN STREET

goshen.edu/news

ABBY GRABER

President appoints two to her executive team

President Rebecca Stoltzfus has appointed two new members to her cabinet: **Martin Gunawan**, vice president for finance, and **Raj Biyani '92**, chief innovation officer. Gunawan oversees financial operations. He most recently served with Mennonite Mission Network. Biyani, a former Microsoft executive, leads institutional strategy and innovation, overseeing information technology and marketing and communications. Stoltzfus said both leaders bring strategic clarity and strong mission alignment as the college strengthens its financial foundation and advances innovation.

KYLE HUFFORD

Broadcasting and writing extracurriculars win big

Students at The Globe, *The Record* and *Squirrel Digest* all won major awards this year. The student radio station, 91.1 The Globe, was named the best college radio station in the country among colleges under 10,000 students by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, along with being named Radio School of the Year by the Indiana Association of School Broadcasters. Between both contests, the station won 29 awards, including four first-place honors from the IASB *(pictured above)*.

At the Indiana Collegiate Press Association's annual banquet, *The Record* won 18 individual awards, including five first-place awards, and was named runner-up as Best College Newspaper among schools under 3,000 students. ICPA also recognized the *Squirrel Digest*, GC's student magazine, in its inaugural year. The magazine won six awards, including two first-place awards for overall design and visual art.

2026 C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest winner: Isabel Massud, a senior film production major from São Paulo, Brazil, won the 2026 C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest with her speech, "Gender Safety: An Illusion of the Free World." Massud spoke about the normalization of gender violence in our culture, saying, "While we publicly condemn domestic violence, we continue to praise it indirectly through tradition, social norms and the way we raise our children."

DANIEL JAMES '24

MSW program earns accreditation

The joint Master of Social Work program from Goshen College and Bluffton University has earned initial accreditation, completing a multi-year effort launched in 2017. Supported by a Lilly Endowment Inc. grant, the program addresses workforce shortages in social work and mental health. Enrollment is growing, with graduates already entering the field. The flexible, online format allows working professionals to complete the degree at their own pace, and accreditation applies retroactively to eligible students.

PHOTO FROM "A WOMAN WITHOUT A FACE," RUTH YU HSIAO

Ruth Yu Hsiao Endowment established with $1M gift

Goshen College has established the Ruth Yu Hsiao Endowment for Liberal Arts Education through a $1 million gift from William C. Hsiao, in honor of his late wife, **Ruth Yu Hsiao '61**. The endowment supports the humanities and core curriculum, reinforcing the college's liberal arts mission. A scholar and educator, Ruth championed critical thinking, global awareness and empathy, values the fund will sustain for future students.

100+ years of *Bulletin* now online

Goshen College's official alumni magazine is now fully available online through the Mennonite Historical Library and Internet Archive, with issues dating back to 1903. Fully text-searchable issues now make it easier to explore the college's past. To access issues online, visit *archive.org* and search for "Goshen College Bulletin."

COURTESY OF TELEMUNDO

Stories of belonging; GC featured on Telemundo

Featured in the Emmy-nominated Telemundo special, "Talento Desperdiciado," Goshen College was highlighted for its role in Latino education and the challenges students face in today's political climate. Interviews with students, faculty and families pointed to both barriers and strong campus support. Students described a culture where they feel encouraged to celebrate their identity, while faculty focus on mentorship, relationships and creating a strong sense of belonging. Watch the full episode at *https://bit.ly/Talento-Desperdiciado*

MORE THAN JUST stories

More Than Just Stories

A $5 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., awarded through its National Storytelling Initiative on Christian Faith and Life, will fund the launch of More Than Just Stories, a new Goshen College media hub featuring five projects:

- **Just Stories**, a podcast exploring faith-based perspectives on criminal justice
- **The Gratitude Letters**, a podcast centered on the idea that it's never too late to say thank you
- **Peace Talks**, a regional and national speech competition focused on peacebuilding and courageous communication
- **The Inheritance**, a documentary film project following young people living out their faith
- **Climate Action** [working title], a national storytelling conference on faith and ecological responsibility

Selected from more than 1,100 applicants, Goshen was among 48 awardees nationwide to receive storytelling grants in November 2025. The five-year initiative will be led by faculty and students in the Communication Department and the Religion, Justice and Society Department. **Duane Stoltzfus '81** is the project director of More Than Just Stories, with production based in the Center for Communication Studies and support from Globe Media and FiveCore Media.

ABBY GRABER

The 2026 President's Graduating Leader Awardees

President **Rebecca Stoltzfus** announced six graduating seniors as winners of the President's Graduating Leader Award on Wednesday, April 8. The annual award is presented to outstanding seniors who demonstrate academic excellence and leadership inside and outside of the classroom.

This year's honorees:

❶ Eliza Alemán

History and sustainability double major
Rock Island, Illinois

Alemán has tutored peers, co-edited *The Record*, completed the Sustainability Semester at Merry Lea, and pursued global learning through a semester abroad and a May Term in India, all while focusing on building community and asking hard, critical questions.

❷ Aaliah Higareda

Graphic design major
Elkhart, Indiana

Higareda has embraced the overlap between art and communication at GC: she led the Art Club, co-edited *The Record*, and served in creative leadership roles at the *Squirrel Digest* and across multiple campus organizations.

❸ Kate Bodiker

English and communication double major
Berlin, Ohio

In her time at GC, Bodiker served as executive editor of *The Record*, revived the yearbook after a decade, wrote and produced an original play, and studied in Ecuador, Japan and London, along with serving for numerous other clubs and organizations on campus.

❹ Ella McLeod

Accounting major
Davison, Michigan

McLeod committed deeply to a focused set of roles while at GC, as resident assistant, assistant resident director, and softball team captain — all while completing an internship with RSM and attending a professional conference in Montreal, excelling in her studies and leadership.

❺ Henry Meyer

Biology major
Huntertown, Indiana

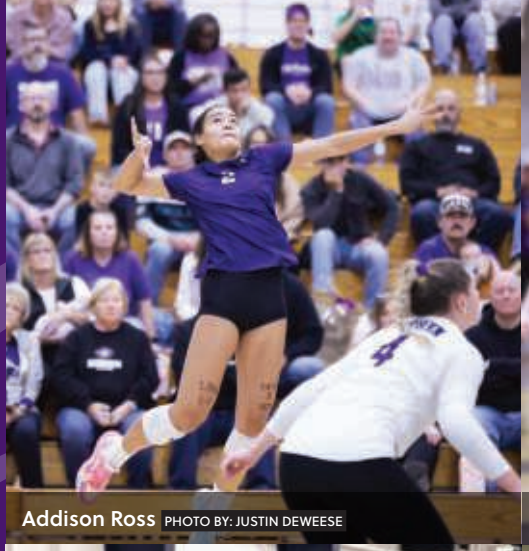
Meyer is known for his strong communication and a high level of conscientiousness, and at Goshen, he served three years in Residence Life while excelling as a biology major and earning both his pilot's license and a shortwave radio license.

❻ Ellie Nickel

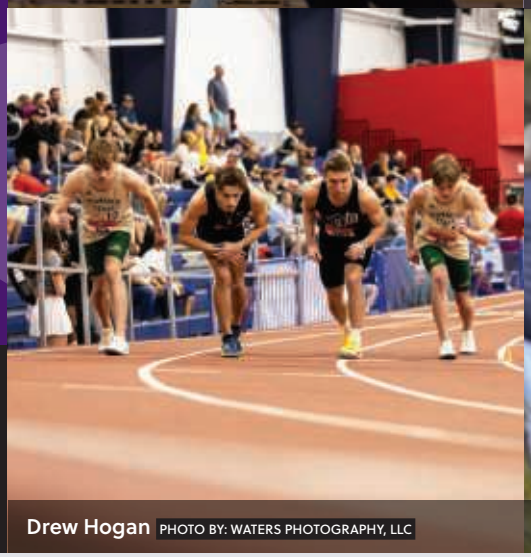
Social work major
Bluffton, Ohio

This year alone, Nickel held leadership roles in three campus organizations while completing a 400-hour field placement, as well as intentionally expanding her perspective through pursuing Spanish fluency and deeply engaging academically with peace and justice.

ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS


Addison Ross PHOTO BY: JUSTIN DEWEESE

Deecon Hill PHOTO BY: JUSTIN DEWEESE


Drew Hogan PHOTO BY: WATERS PHOTOGRAPHY, LLC

Kassandra Ortega PHOTO BY: JOSH NEUHART

*The spring sports seasons — baseball, softball, men's volleyball, men's and women's outdoor track and field, men's and women's tennis, and men's and women's disc golf — are included in the fall/winter issue. Visit **goleafs.net** for the latest updates on all the Maple Leaf teams.*

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Maple Leafs had their second-highest finish among the seven years they have qualified for nationals when they competed at the NAIA National Championship in Tallahassee, Florida. **Duncan Kogei** (Eldoret, Kenya) placed 15th of 323 runners at nationals, and **Mathew Keitany** (Iten, Kenya) came in 39th, earning them both All-American honors. This was the first time that Goshen had ever had two cross country All-Americans on the same team in the same year, and there were only eight other NAIA schools that could say the same this season. **Drew Hogan** (Goshen, Ind.) was named the NAIA Men's Cross Country Runner of the Week winner on September 10, becoming the first Maple Leaf to be an NAIA National Player of the Week in any sport since 2017.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

First-year **Kassandra Ortega** (Goshen, Ind.) highlighted the 2025 women's cross country team. Ortega's 6k time of 22:41.3 in the Crossroads League Championship converts to the fastest time in program history for a freshman, surpassing Summer Cooper's mark from 2020. Ortega and **Caroline Jelimo** (Rift Valley Province, Kenya) combined for the fifth-best top two time in program history in that race, and with **Presley Allen** (Mendon, Mich.), they had the fifth-best top three time as well. The women placed second of nine teams at the Bethel Invite earlier in the season.

MEN'S SOCCER

Goshen finished with a 6-8-3 record in 2025 and had their best win percentage in a season since 2018. The Leafs had 27 goals in the 2024 season, but 27 in the 2025 nonconference season alone. GC didn't record a loss from August 24 through September 30 and had a four-game win streak in between. Goshen's 8-0 win over Calumet College of St. Joseph in the season opener saw their most goals in a home game since 2005 and their most in a season opener since 1988. **Stephen Bandi** (Nairobi, Kenya) and **Adrian Gonzalez Martinez** (Metepec, Mexico) were named Honorable Mention All-Crossroads League.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sophia Yoder (Stow, Ohio) scored an 86th-minute goal to put Goshen on top of Lawrence Tech 2-1 in the season opener for the Leafs. In the very next game, Goshen played to a scoreless tie against Olivet Nazarene, a team that was receiving votes in the NAIA coaches poll after playing in the NAIA

Sophia Yoder PHOTO BY: JULIANA CHUPP

tournament the season before. The Tigers would go on to finish the year with no regular-season losses. **Aina Lopez** (Moià, Spain) led the Crossroads League in saves with 135.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

A notable highlight of the women's volleyball season was the team's season sweep against Saint Francis. It was the first time Goshen swept the season series with the Cougars since 2015 and their first season-series sweep of any conference opponent since 2019. The Leafs had 16 aces in a three-set win over Mount Mary — their most aces in a match since 2017. **Brenna Spangler** (Waterloo, Ind.), **Sydney Stutsman** (Goshen, Ind.) and **Alaina Wolfe** (Monticello, Ind.) were named Honorable Mention All-Crossroads League. Wolfe has earned the award for three straight years.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Goshen finished the 2025-26 season with two separate three-game win streaks, a 7-3 nonconference record, a win over #24 Taylor, a two-point loss to #2 Grace and an overtime loss to #11 Indiana Wesleyan. The Maple Leafs finished with their best win percentage since the 2017-18 season and their best nonconference win percentage since 2011-12. **Marcus Northern** (South Bend, Ind.) earned a spot on the Honorable Mention All-Crossroads League team and was the Crossroads League Men's Basketball Defensive Player of the Week for November 10-16.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The best moment from the women's basketball season came when Goshen upset a Taylor Trojans squad that was 16-6 and receiving votes in the NAIA coaches poll. The Leafs shot 49% overall and 50% from three-point range in the 73-64 win. Goshen had back-to-back wins in December over IU-Columbus and IU-Kokomo. **Kyla Foster** (Canton, Ohio) was named Honorable Mention All-Crossroads League and finished her career ranked in Goshen's all-time top ten in rebounds and sixth in assists.

MEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

Drew Hogan (Goshen, Ind.) became an All-American yet again during the indoor season, finishing fourth in the NAIA with a 4:09.13 time in the mile at the NAIA Indoor Track & Field National Championships. He also competed in the 3,000 meters and was a part of the distance medley relay team with **Max Estep** (Middlebury, Ind.), **Jacob Friesen** (Forest Grove, Ore.) and **Mathew Keitany** (Iten, Kenya). **Duncan Kogei** (Eldoret, Kenya) qualified and ran in the 5,000 meters and **Samuel Sofolahan** (Indianapolis, Ind.) competed in the 60 meters. The Leafs' fifth-place finish at the Crossroads League Championship was their highest team finish in a league meet, indoor or outdoor, since the 2008 outdoor season.

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

After breaking the school record in the 60 meters a season ago at 7.91 seconds, **Jaylah Leggett** (Elkhart, Ind.) improved it to 7.80 seconds in 2026. She scored over 60% of the women's team points at the Crossroads League Championships, placing second in the 60 meters and third in the 200 meters. **Caoimhe Farrell** (Galway, Ireland) earned points in the high jump, and **Caroline Lamb** (Pickerington, Ohio) in the weight throw; the distance medley relay and 4x800-meter relay teams also earned points.

MEN'S BOWLING

The Goshen men improved two spots in the Crossroads League standings from their inaugural season. They bumped up from seventh to fifth in the conference this time around, once again led by **Brendan Riley** (Waterford, Mich.). Riley was Second Team All-Crossroads League and was one of three Maple Leafs to earn Crossroads League Men's Bowler of the Week, along with **Nash Morgan** (Fort Worth, Texas) and **Adam Snyder** (Auburn, Ind.). Riley has eclipsed 20,000 pins in his career and also leads the program in games played and career average.

CONGRATULATIONS
to GC Women's Tennis and Men's Cross Country for making NAIA Nationals.

WOMEN'S BOWLING

The Goshen women's bowlers were only behind Marian and Spring Arbor in the Crossroads League standings after placing fifth a year ago. **Rebekah Muzyk** (Goodrich, Mich.) earned the distinction of being First Team All-Crossroads League while **Abigail Kenestrick** (Plymouth, Ohio) made Honorable Mention. Kenestrick was a Crossroads League Women's Bowler of the Week, as was **Jessica Spidell** (Plainwell, Mich.). In their young two-year history, Muzyk leads the program in total pins, games played and career average. The women qualified for the USBC Intercollegiate Team Sectionals for the second straight year.

Thomas Podlesny PHOTO BY: JUSTIN DEWEESE

GOLEAFS.NET

Celebrating THE STAN KING TENNIS COMPLEX

Goshen College celebrated the dedication of the Stan King Tennis Complex with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 2. The upgraded facility, completed in the fall, features eight new courts on the original site, along with new bleachers, fencing, a support building and branded windscreens — enhancements made possible through donor support. The complex was named in honor of former player and 17-year head coach **Stan King '61**, the winningest coach in program history, who attended the event with family and friends.

The ceremony included brief remarks, refreshments and an intersquad scrimmage by the current Maple Leaf tennis teams. The project provides student-athletes with a true home-court advantage while enhancing the fan experience. The women's team has a 4-0 record on the new courts and qualified for the NAIA national championship for the first time in program history.

PHOTOS BY **ABBY GRABER** AND **JUSTIN DEWEESE**

GOSHEN MAPLE LEAFS

CLASS OF 2026

PHOTOS BY
ABBY GRABER

The 180 members of the Goshen College Class of 2026 were honored at a commencement ceremony on April 26, 2026.

Master of Arts Degree in Teaching

Brittany M. Ross
Master of Arts in Teaching, Elementary Education
Seymour, Indiana

Mayra Janet Chanon
Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education
South Bend, Indiana

Angela Lynn DiGeroloma
Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education
Granger, Indiana

María Teresa Guillén García
Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education
Mishawaka, Indiana

Roman S. Kuntz
Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education
New Carlisle, Indiana

Master of Business Administration

Renert Auguste
MBA General Management
Elkhart, Indiana

Melissa RayAnne Belcher
MBA General Management
Yuma, Arizona

Ruvini Ediriweera
MBA General Management
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Kyle Fisher
MBA General Management
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Victoria P. Green
MBA General Management
Wakarusa, Indiana

Tasmina Kabir Urmi
MBA General Management
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Marshall V. King
MBA General Management
Goshen, Indiana

Eugene R. Martin
MBA General Management
Manheim, Pennsylvania

Nathan Quinten Marshall
MBA General Management
Newport News, Virginia

Jesse Allen Miller
MBA General Management
Walnut Creek, Ohio

Than Nguyen Lai
MBA General Management
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Milady A. Torkornoo
MBA General Management
Chicago, Illinois

Master of Science in Nursing

Stephanie Marie Cross
Family Nurse Practitioner
Mendon, Michigan

Lauran Cuyler
Family Nurse Practitioner
Osceola, Indiana

Omotayo Omolara Idowu
Family Nurse Practitioner
Osceola, Indiana

Maria Jo King
Family Nurse Practitioner
New Paris, Indiana

Tracy A. O'Connell
Family Nurse Practitioner
Colon, Michigan

Kimberly L. Skupski
Family Nurse Practitioner
Granger, Indiana

The following is a list of degree candidates for the 2026 graduating class, including some December 2025 graduates. Inclusion on this list does not mean that all degree requirements have been met.

*** ***Summa Cum Laude:*** *3.90-4.00 GPA (with highest honor)*

** ***Magna Cum Laude:*** *3.80-3.89 GPA (with great honor)*

* ***Cum Laude:*** *3.60-3.79 GPA (with honor)*

Following each name is the field of study being completed by the student. Use of the diagonal (/) indicates that the two fields are a double major program with two equal areas of concentration. Areas in which a minor will be completed are indicated by italics. Interdisciplinary concentrations are listed after the colon.

Master of Social Work

Jill C. Armantrout
Master of Social Work
McCordsville, Indiana

Clarissa Sue Bolenbaugh
Master of Social Work
Cloverdale, Ohio

Bethany Coutz
Master of Social Work
Montpelier, Ohio

Kayla Drew
Master of Social Work
Shipshewana, Indiana

Stephanie Esqueda
Master of Social Work
Goshen, Indiana

Angela Howard Gibson
Master of Social Work
McGuffey, Ohio

Kayla M. Grover
Master of Social Work
Seattle, Wash.

Paige Haehn
Master of Social Work
Delphos, Ohio

Frankie Victoria Hamilton
Master of Social Work
Bluffton, Ohio

Mary Marisol Schmauss Heavyrunner
Master of Social Work
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dawna M. Heiliger
Master of Social Work
Goshen, Indiana

Shanti M. Kauffman
Master of Social Work
Salem, Oregon

Teresa A. Leichty
Master of Social Work
Castle Rock, Colorado

Bethany McGowan
Master of Social Work
Warsaw, Ohio

Lakeshia Dominique Ward
Master of Social Work
Pittsburg, California

Aimee Whitmer
Master of Social Work
Perrysburg, Ohio

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science

Aysia Maxine Adkins*
Music
Goshen, Indiana

Sebastian Aguilar
Accounting, *Information Technology*
Chicago, Illinois

Ashwaq Aldhuraibi
Psychology
Shipshewana, Indiana

Eliza M. Aleman*
Sustainability / History
Goshen, Indiana

Gisel Altamirano Ramos*
Psychology / Criminal Justice & Restorative Justice
Goshen, Indiana

Stephany Anicua
Nursing
Howe, Indiana

Milo J. Armstrong*
Music / Secondary Education
Elkhart, Indiana

Karlene Alexandria Lindsay Ballast
Exercise Science
East St. Paul, Manitoba, Canada

Ishmail Bangura
Information Technology, *Graphic Design*
Goshen, Indiana

Emma Sue Batten
Exercise Science
Osceola, Indiana

Chloe M. Baxter
Social Work, *Psychology*
South Bend, Indiana

Anthony Beatriz
Elementary Education—English Learners (TESOL)
Goshen, Indiana

Eleanor Louise Bernhardt
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
Three Rivers, Michigan

Kate Nicole Bodiker***
Communication / Writing, *Bible and Religion*
Berlin, Ohio

Emma Grace Campbell***
Elementary Education—English Learners (TESOL), *Spanish*
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

David Carbajal
Accounting
Elkhart, Indiana

Jacob Carlson
Business
Grand Blanc, Michigan

Ryan I. Carrillo
Film Production, *Writing, Art*
Goshen, Indiana

Magaly Guadalupe Cazabal Gonzalez**
Nursing, *Psychology*
Goshen, Indiana

CLASS OF 2026

180
total graduates

Bachelor of Arts: **135**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing: **16**

Bachelor of Science: **4**

Master of Science in Nursing: **6**

Master of Business Administration: **5**

Master of Social Work: **9**

Master of Arts in Teaching: **5**

19
countries represented

14
states represented

96
graduates from Indiana

Katie Aranxa Celis
Sign Language Interpreting
Goshen, Indiana

Joseph Cerda
Marketing, *Graphic Design*
Miami, Florida

Friency Chepkemoi*
Nursing
Nakuru, Kenya

Hannah Loren Clearwater
Art, *Music*
Elkhart, Indiana

Katherine Sarai Columna
Art, *Marketing*
Elkhart, Indiana

Connie Cruz
Business Management
Elkhart, Indiana

Joyce S. Daliya
Biology
Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, India

Lindsey O. Daniels
Film Production
Goshen, Indiana

Elizabeth Renee Davis
Art
Goshen, Indiana

Fernando A. Daza-Jabian***
Peace Justice & Conflict Studies / Business
Maicao, Colombia

Yvette Jaqueline Delgado**
Accounting
Goshen, Indiana

Emma Jae Detwiler*
Social Work, *Psychology*
Goshen, Indiana

Bianca Diamond
Business
Fontana, California

Jacob C. Dixon
Art, *Environmental Studies*
South Bend, Indiana

Jason DuBois*
History / Secondary Education
Goshen, Indiana

Matthew S. Dyck***
Peace Justice & Conflict Studies / History
Goshen, Indiana

Crystal Marie Edson*
Environmental & Marine Science, *Sustainability*
Rochester, Indiana

Stephanie Michelle Efigenio Martinez
Business
Goshen, Indiana

Hailey Elizabeth Elgan
Elementary Education, *Disability Studies*
Apple Valley, California

Austin L. Escamilla*
Physical Education / Secondary Education
Nappanee, Indiana

Axell D. Espino Montero
Business
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Jacob M. Eyler
Exercise Science
Franklin, Tennessee

Kassidy A. Faler*
Biology / Secondary Education
Pioneer, Ohio

Iker Fernandez-Andes
Exercise Science, *Psychology*
Goshen, Indiana

Richard Figueroa Jr.
Accounting
Goshen, Indiana

Jazmin Flores***
Exercise Science, *Business*
Elkhart, Indiana

Kyla Marzay Foster
Sport Management
Canton, Ohio

Yvonne Friedmann***
Exercise Science
Bühl, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Elisabeth Christine Friesen
Graphic Design, *Writing*
North Newton, Kansas

Mona S. Galeb**
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Filippo Gallo
Computer Science
Alassio, Italy

Eduardo Garcia
Business
Goshen, Indiana

Ashley Garcia Leticia Coto
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
Goshen, Indiana

Jessica Marie Geiser
Social Work
Goshen, Indiana

Briana M. Gerig
Social Work
Mishawaka, Indiana

Christopher J. Godden
Exercise Science
London, Ontario, Canada

Gustavo Adolfo Gonzalez
Mathematics
Goshen, Indiana

Adrian Jared Gonzalez Martinez
Computer Science
Metepec, Mexico

Lindsey Anne Graber***
English, *Peace & Justice Studies, Criminal Justice & Restorative Justice*
Goshen, Indiana

Tim Groenenberg
Business
Lehmen, Germany

Adriana Guevara
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Jaden A. Harris
Engineering Physics
Goshen, Indiana

Citlali Y. Hernandez
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
Ligonier, Indiana

Wendy N. Hernandez
Nursing
Elkhart, Indiana

Arturo Hernandez-Barrera
Business, *Marketing*
Goshen, Indiana

Liliana J. Herrera*
Broadcasting
Santa Clarita, California

Aaliah Higareda
Graphic Design, *Communication*
Elkhart, Indiana

Drew M. Hogan
Business
Goshen, Indiana

Ann Louise Howe
Communication ADC
Elkhart, Indiana

Tyrelle Nyrie Hunt
Sport Management
Los Angeles, California

Jazmin Ibarra-Moreno
Business
Elkhart, Indiana

Jean Pierre Jabbour
Exercise Science
Beirut, Lebanon

William Paolo Jackson
Criminal Justice & Restorative Justice
Cambridge, Waikato, New Zealand

Aranza M. Jimenez Cruz***
Accounting
Elkhart, Indiana

Saroj C. Kauffman
Biology, *Sustainability*
Sheridan, Oregon

Mathew K. Keitany
Public Health
Goshen, Indiana

Rayah Kolbusz
Marketing, *Business*
Detroit, Michigan

Andrew Jared-Basil Lenn
Business, *Sport Management*
Garden Grove, California

Elizabeth Lewis
Elementary Education—Special Education
Elkhart, Indiana

Clara Elizabeth Lind
English
Goshen, Indiana

Indis C. Linebaugh
Sign Language Interpreting
Portage, Michigan

Sydney N. Lockhart
Biology
Linton, Indiana

Yanick Loiselle
Physical Education
Sudbury, Ontario, Canada

Brandon J. Lomas
Accounting
Goshen, Indiana

Rolando Lopez
Business
Elkhart, Indiana

Steven D. Lopez
Sport Management, *Business*
Pomona, California

Aina López Mas
Biology
Moia, Barcelona, Spain

Fernando J. Marte Santana
Business
Goshen, Indiana

Daniela Martinez
Public Health
Ligonier, Indiana

Edwin J Martinez
Business, *Accounting*
Goshen, Indiana

Isabel Massud Faria de Souza***
Film Production, *Business, Broadcasting*
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Mackenzie Emmaleah Mast***
Psychology, *Art*
Goshen, Indiana

Peri G. Mast-Hochstedler**
Psychology, *Communication*
Goshen, Indiana

Andrea Mata-Gomez
Education, *Criminal Justice & Restorative Justice*
Goshen, Indiana

Faith Anne Yvonne McDonald
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry
Elkhart, Indiana

Ella L. McLeod*
Accounting
Davison, Michigan

Shadai E. McMasters
Interdisciplinary: Art, Peace Justice & Conflict Studies, Marketing
Goshen, Indiana

Katelyn M. McNutt
Sign Language Interpreting
Portage, Michigan

Mairin Nicole Mendoza Matute
Theater
Plymouth, Indiana

Henry Frederick Yoder Meyer***
Biology, Spanish
Huntertown, Indiana

Drew E. Miles
Broadcasting
Clayton, Indiana

Karla Montiel*
Nursing
Elkhart, Indiana

Kelsey Nicole Moore**
Art / Environmental & Marine Science
Greencastle, Indiana

Laci A. Munger**
Environmental & Marine Science
Auburn, Indiana

Junto Murata
Sport Management
Kitanagoya, Aichi, Japan

Pamela Murillo Zamora
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, *Women's and Gender Studies, Chemistry*
Curridabat, Costa Rica

Alia Najera
Elementary Education—
English Learners (TESOL)
Ligonier, Indiana

Jacob Near
Marketing, *Business*
Goshen, Indiana

Eliott N. Nickel***
Social Work, *Spanish*, *Peace & Justice Studies*
Bluffton, Ohio

Lillian K. Null
Exercise Science
Sullivan, Illinois

Hunter M. Oborn
Exercise Science
Cincinnati, Ohio

Britney Stephanie Ortega
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Ivonne D. Ortiz*
Marketing, *Graphic Design*
Goshen, Indiana

Ashley E. Penzenik*
Elementary Education—
Special Education
Middlebury, Indiana

Thiago Serejo Pereira
Exercise Science
Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil

Evelyn Perez
Public Health
Goshen, Indiana

Camila Pérez-Diener***
Art / Secondary Education, *Global Studies*
Goshen, Indiana

Esmeralda Pico
English, *Disability Studies*
Santa Ana, California

Natalie Sarai Pineda Vasquez
Music
Elkhart, Indiana

Alexis Pizana
Accounting, *Business*
Goshen, Indiana

Alejandro J. Portocarrero
Business
Elkhart, Indiana

Haley Elizabeth Ramirez
Social Work
Goshen, Indiana

Judith Rangel
Business, *Accounting*
Goshen, Indiana

Nathan Henry Wyse Reeser***
Engineering Physics
Madison, Wisconsin

Morgan Roan**
Accounting, *Business*
Bristol, Indiana

Anthony Michael Roberts**
Exercise Science / Business
Elkhart, Indiana

Jennifer Rodriguez
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Theresa M. Rodriguez
Nursing
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Manoj Sapkota
Film Production, *Art*
Pokhara, Gandaki, Nepal

Katie Ann Sauder***
Nursing
Bristol, Indiana

Allison N. Saylor
Nursing
Syracuse, Indiana

Jesus Serna
Information Technology, *Business*
Goshen, Indiana

Eli C. Simones
Sport Management, *Business*, *Physical Education*
Loveland, Ohio

Jasmin Smith
Broadcasting, *Psychology*, *Business*
Santa Clarita, California

Reece M. Snider
Accounting
Goshen, Indiana

Ryan Clayton Snider*
Art
Goshen, Indiana

Brenna Rose Spangler***
Nursing
Waterloo, Indiana

Kennedy R. Stewart
Interdisciplinary: Education, English, Sociology
Elkhart, Indiana

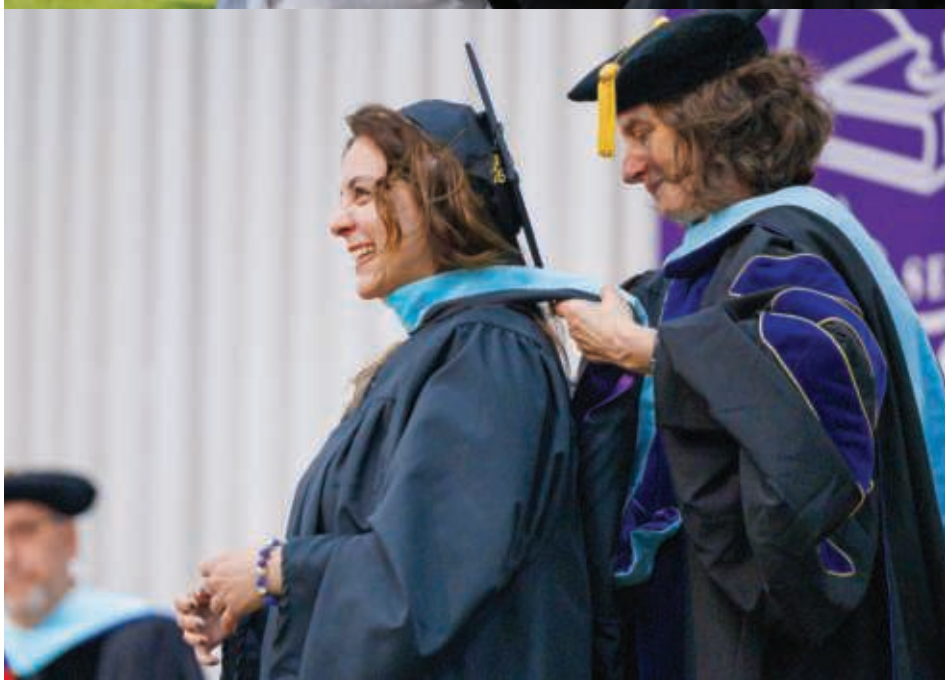
Jacob Reuben Stoltzfus***
Computer Science, *Game Development*
Rockingham, Virginia

Sydney Ryann Stutsman
Environmental & Marine Science
Goshen, Indiana

Ru Sung
Public Health
Goshen, Indiana

Cal Swartzendruber
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, *Chemistry*
Goshen, Indiana

Hannah Marie Sweitzer***
Nursing, *Public Health*
Auburn, Indiana



Laura Regina Sylvestre de Castro
Exercise Science, *Sport Management*
Brasilia, Brazil

Edwin A. Tarango
Exercise Science
Murrieta, California

Veronica Torres Cuenca
Exercise Science
Elkhart, Indiana

Peter W. Trudelle
Sign Language Interpreting
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Owen Tyers
Psychology
Hillier, Ontario, Canada

Guilherme Rafael Vinagre Moreira
Physical Education
Almada, Lisbon, Portugal

Mariana Esther Vivanco
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Carlie Lavon Webber***
Business
Elkhart, Indiana

Saiveon J. Williams
Business
Blair, South Carolina

Lance Wilson
History
Romeoville, Illinois

Quinn J. Wyse
Interdisciplinary: Accounting, Art, Music
Archbold, Ohio

Jill Alida Yoder
Environmental & Marine Science
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Kaylee A. Yoder
Nursing
Goshen, Indiana

Sophia Yordy***
Elementary Education—
Special Education, *Spanish*
Goshen, Indiana

Joanna Zelaya Aguilar
Public Health
Elkhart, Indiana

Learning to live well

What does it mean to be formed as a courageous, creative and compassionate leader?

At Goshen College, that formation begins in the liberal arts — in classrooms, communities and experiences that challenge students to think deeply, act with purpose and serve others.

The six alumni featured here followed very different paths after graduation. Yet, each points back to a common foundation: an education that paired intellectual rigor with real-world experience and a commitment to loving God and neighbor.

Their stories, told in their own words, show how that foundation continues to unfold across careers, communities and callings.

BY: **Barbara Showalter Josenhans '96**

MAJOR: Music | FROM: Mishawaka, Indiana

Senior Writer & Associate Director, University Relations, University of Notre Dame

Learning to navigate, not just to perform

WHEN I LEFT Goshen College, I thought the only thing that mattered was the diploma in my hand. The truth is that Goshen gave me far more. My time as a Maple Leaf taught me lessons that were less about the intricacies of music, my chosen major, and more to do with bigger ideas about the world, myself, and how to live a life of learning, connection and alignment. Friends taught me how to laugh. The community taught me how to sing. Professors challenged me to think, speak with conviction, and become the kind of person who brings integrity, courage and love into the world.

I spent a lot of time on Arts 3rd, where the music professors (**David Mosley**, **Doyle Preheim**, **Lon Sherer**, **Marvin Blickenstaff** and others) supported my performing endeavors while never letting me sacrifice my personal development. After graduation, I arrived at music school overwhelmed by what I didn't know, but realized my liberal arts experience had given me the resilience to easily catch up to my conservatory-trained peers. Thanks to the Biblical Literature papers I wrote for **Don Blosser '59**, I had the critical thinking skills needed to navigate new materials. The lessons I learned in Anabaptist History with **John D. Roth '81** kept me grounded in who I was in the midst of getting lost in the competition of auditions and performance standards. I had to be comfortable with discomfort, vulnerable enough to ask for help, and ready to serve others in my community — all lessons I learned on Study-Service Term.

As my professional life began, I leaned into other wisdom from Goshen: **Dan Hess** taught me effective communication and how to "come home" to myself, while **Jo-Ann Brant**'s Feminist Theology class gave me a love of words and the courage of conviction. Because of Goshen, I was more than able to navigate the curvy road of adulthood that I had not initially anticipated in my naïveté as a young alum. When it was time to make a professional pivot, I was able to lean into my Goshen education to manage, sell, market and write.

Upon landing my current role, it became clear that Goshen and the experiences it set in motion had prepared me for this chapter. I ended up at a place that values the same balance of spirituality and intellect I found at Goshen, where my voice, values and impact align.

Goshen College didn't prepare me for a single career, it prepared me to navigate an ever-changing world filled with a variety of people who are infinitely different from me. Knowing myself, thinking critically, trusting my instincts, taking chances, learning new things, operating with integrity and helping people find resonance have enabled me to empower those around me to be their own best advocates and be a little braver.

BY: **Jim Gunden '80**

MAJOR: Business | FROM: Sellersville, Pennsylvania

Retired: IT Executive, Aetna, and Founder of Precision Solutions Delivery

Learning to see differently

THERE WERE MANY parts of my Goshen College education that shaped me — some expected, others not — but together they formed how I approach both my work and my life of service.

One of the most formative was inductive Bible study. This Anabaptist-friendly approach to making sense of scripture was liberating to me. It taught me that people can read the same translations and come away with very different conclusions regarding meaning and application to life today.

We learned biblical numbers have other meanings and biblical connections. This knowledge helps to understand that others take numbers in scripture literally, contrasting my view that numbers convey meanings, but not necessarily mathematical accuracy. This lesson stayed with me. It gave me the framework for working with people who see the world differently — not to dismiss those differences, but to understand and respect them. This has helped me in board service with my church, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Mennonite Central Committee and Dock Mennonite Academy (formerly Christopher Dock).

Goshen's motto, "Culture for Service," also left a lasting impression. Seeing these words, as they circled the book and lamp on the seal, became a quiet call to action. Especially in my later years, when I've been invited to be a part of a group that helps or serves others, I try to say yes. Seeing a need where I can help is a call for me to engage. Helping and saying yes has been enriching and given purpose to my life.

My Study-Service Term experience deepened that formation, providing many growth experiences and appreciation for other cultures. Living with people in a different country, understanding their life experiences and challenges, was life-changing. Seeing the impact of U.S. culture and influence while living in a developing country was enlightening.

As I grew in my career, I had the opportunity to work in beautiful Puerto Rico and enjoyed new friendships and appreciated differences in family and workplace culture. Further along in my career, I worked with teams in India, Sri Lanka and other countries, encountering some collaborative challenges that required more than technical solutions. We had conflicts because our work schedule called for offshore people to work several important holidays on their calendars. Respecting their culture, we explained to our U.S. staff that asking these people to work those days was like U.S. employers demanding us to work on Christmas. We figured out a way to honor their culture, yet get the work done.

Looking back, I see that my Goshen education didn't just prepare me for a career. It has given me many deep, lifelong friendships and connections with many people I respect in church circles, and strong, lasting relationships with Goshen College faculty and associates.

The lessons that stayed

BY: **Lisa Koop '99**

MAJORS: Psychology and English

FROM: Goshen, Indiana

Director of Legal Services, National Immigrant Justice Center

EDITORIAL NOTE: *This alumna chose to reflect on her Goshen College experience differently: Through the lessons that have stayed with her.*

The most important question I learned to ask is... does the evidence support the conclusion? Put another way, are we doing things because that's how they've always been done? Or because that is the current trend? Or because we are nervous about rocking the boat? We have to be ready to question and ready to adjust, but also prepared to stand by positions that may cut against the grain.

The first time I had to lead with courage, I remembered... you know what is right. Take a deep breath and make the words come out. This challenge is about something so much bigger than you.

Studying psychology seemed unrelated to my career until... just kidding, Professor **Victor Koop** was and remains my most formative teacher. My psychology and English majors were excellent foundations for a career in immigration law. I could talk about this for days.

Leadership is less about authority and more about... building a community of people equipped to

BY: **Sally Hunsberger '86**

MAJORS: Biology and Mathematics | FROM: Washington, DC

Acting Director of the Office of Biostatistics for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID)

Leadership is less about authority and more about … honesty, curiosity and learning

DURING THE COVID-19 pandemic, I was asked to lead a study of the COVID-19 vaccines across seven countries: the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Guinea, Liberia, Mongolia, Indonesia and Mexico. These countries had not been included in the original studies demonstrating vaccine effectiveness, yet they would soon begin rolling out the vaccines. Leaders in these countries wanted to understand how the vaccines performed in their own populations.

My initial reaction was confusion. As a statistician, I was usually a supporting member of a study team, not the principal investigator. I asked my director if he was sure I was the right person for the role, explaining that I had little experience managing all the components of a study and didn't even know what all the pieces were. He simply said, "I'm sure. Don't worry — I'll give you a team to work with." So I jumped in.

What I discovered was that honesty and curiosity were powerful leadership tools. When I openly acknowledged what I didn't know and asked questions to better understand the process, it allowed others to step forward and lead in their areas of expertise. Together, the project came together in an incredible way.

One priority for me was ensuring that the people doing the work and who knew the study best received recognition for their contributions. When we developed the publication policy, we required that anyone listed as a primary author attend all study meetings. We also made sure that at least three representatives from each country participated in the calls. In the end, this approach allowed many junior investigators to engage in the process in ways they had never experienced before.

People often told me they had never had so much fun working on a study. At our weekly meetings — late on Friday afternoons — I would randomly ask someone to close us out with a word or thought. The laughter and reflections that followed were a welcome release after long and challenging weeks.

Saying yes to this project surprised me and ultimately set me on a different path than the one I had been on. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to lead and learn from the remarkable team that made the study possible.

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do the work and carry forward the mission, who support each other and hold each other accountable. Find your community and treasure it.

When I face conflict, I try to remember… It's okay — and sometimes necessary — to address conflict head-on. It's not okay to stay in a place of conflict. Say the hard things, but find a way forward.

The habit that most shapes my decisions today is… writing. When I was young and stuck, my mom told me to just start writing. When I need to sort out my thoughts and find a direction, I write.

What I didn't understand at 20 was… the future would be beautiful and terrible. A mentor told me to "keep putting the good out there" and that simple guidance has been my north star.

My liberal arts education prepared me to lead by teaching me to… feel deeply, fail spectacularly, love my community, question everything, trust my training.

BY: **Raj Biyani '92**
MAJOR: Accounting | FROM: Calcutta, India
Chief Innovation Officer, Goshen College

The classroom across the street

THE WHITE HOUSE across from Newcomer Center was the home of **Mary Bender**, a retired professor of French. When I arrived at Goshen College in 1988 as an international student from the bustling city of Calcutta, India — alone and nervous — Mary welcomed me and two classmates, **GB Basnet '92** from Kathmandu and **Avinash Kessop '92** from Calcutta, into her home and treated us like family. During the four years we lived there, we became known on campus as the "Bender Boys."

Only months earlier, my parents and I had been sitting around the dining table in our home in Calcutta when we opened the Goshen College information packet. As we read about the school's values, my mother smiled and said something I will never forget: "Raj, Goshen College looks like a good Hindu college!" She meant that the values she saw — a nurturing community, grounded in spirituality, deep hospitality, humility — felt familiar.

"The most valuable skill my Goshen education gave me was not expertise in a narrow field, but the confidence to keep learning."

Living in Mary Bender's home became one of the greatest gifts of my college years. It was where I first learned what it means to belong and where a lifelong journey of learning began.

During my first weeks on campus, Professor **Del Good '62** told me, "At Goshen College, you will learn how to learn." To be honest, I couldn't understand what that meant. In the classroom, Professor **Shirley Showalter** taught me how to think carefully and write clearly. And **Stuart Showalter**, *The Record*'s advisor, sharpened my writing with his meticulous feedback — often delivered in red ink across my articles. Outside the classroom, **Russ Liechty '53**, director of counseling, became a kind of father figure. Russ and **Marge Liechty '53** were always there with encouragement and a steady shoulder to lean on. Whenever homesickness struck — as it inevitably does for an international student far from home — Associate Academic Dean **John Nyce '59** and **Dorothy Yoder Nyce '60** offered a comforting reminder of home, inviting us for home-cooked Hindustani khana and cups of steaming garam chai: small gestures that made Indiana feel a little more like home.

But at the center of that circle of care was Mary Bender. She quietly modeled it every day. Her empathy, kindness, intellectual curiosity and generosity toward others — with no expectations in return — were lessons no classroom could teach. Only years later did I fully appreciate something remarkable: here was a Mennonite Christian who embodied the very virtues described in the Bhagavad Gita — humility, seeing the divine in every human being, compassion and selfless service.

Looking back, I realize that those years at Goshen were shaping not just my education, but the way I would approach life and leadership. Decades later, I finally understand what my professors meant by "you will learn how to learn."

Over a 35-year career, I have moved through multiple roles: technology inventor, product manager, general manager, CEO, author, investor, mentor and AI strategist. The most valuable skill my Goshen education gave me was not expertise in a narrow field, but the confidence to keep learning.

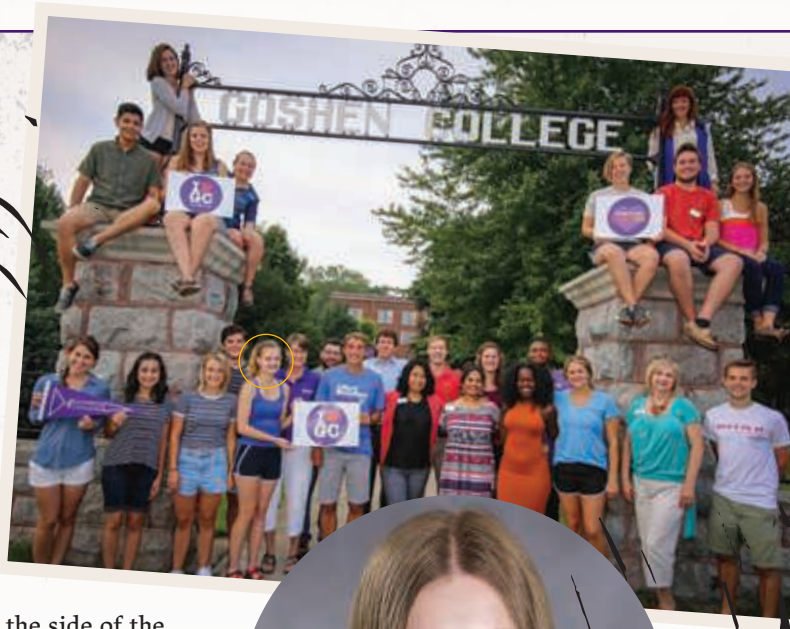
That mindset shaped a pivotal moment in my career. After 12 years at Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond, Wash., I relocated to India with my family to lead Microsoft's largest engineering center outside the United States — an organization far larger than any I had previously led.

The lesson I had absorbed at Goshen — keep learning, grow together — guided how I built teams, encouraged experimentation, and helped people grow. At Microsoft India, employee engagement rose from 51% to 99%. We also launched the Microsoft IT Garage in Hyderabad to foster grassroots innovation. The transformation of Microsoft India has since been studied in case discussions at Harvard Business School, the Indian Institute of Management and Singapore Management University. Today,

as I mentor leaders and study the Bhagavad Gita as part of my spiritual journey, I still see the same thread running through my life.

Mary Bender — who recently celebrated her 99th birthday — is no longer just the retired professor who welcomed three homesick international students. Over the years, she has become part of my family in India. My parents embraced her as one of their own. My brother Rohit knows her stories. My wife Aarti and our children, Garima and Rohan, know her as someone who helped shape my life.

What began as hospitality became something deeper: family. And when I trace that thread back to where it began, I see it clearly — the white house across from Newcomer Center, where three homesick international students first learned what it means to belong: 1901 South Main Street.



BY: **Joelle Friesen '17, M.D.**

MAJOR: Molecular Biology/Biochemistry | FROM: Normal, Illinois

Internal Medicine Chief Resident Physician, Mayo Clinic

Healing the world, peace by peace

Peace by peace.

As I prepare to place a central line for a woman with sepsis, I pause for a brief centering moment: In, out/deep, slow/calm, ease/smile, release. I hear the echoes of **Deb Detwiler**'s **'79** voice and the collective breaths of Women's World Music Choir.

Peace by peace.

"Salam alaikum," I greet my clinic patient. His shoulders visibly relax as he smiles and returns the greeting. When he asks how I know an Arabic greeting, we discover a connection: Morocco, where I studied during **Dean Rhodes**' **'72** May Term. We reminisce about the beauty of his country, and when the conversation turns to his lung cancer diagnosis, he speaks openly about his hopes and fears for the future.

Peace by peace.

During rounds, an intern begins explaining the plan for a 70-year-old patient when her daughter angrily interrupts. **Keith Graber Miller**'s Liberation Theology teachings come back to me: God is on the side of the suffering. This family is suffering — from fear, grief, and uncertainty — and I am called to walk alongside them. I ask the team to pull up chairs and invite the patient and her daughter to share more about themselves and what matters most to them. The conversation that follows includes tears and the development of a shared goal: to help her return home comfortably to say goodbye to her family.

Peace by peace.

The transfer team rushes a young man struggling to breathe into the ICU, where he is intubated for what is believed to be pneumonia, yet something doesn't quite fit. I am reminded of **David Lind '97** and **Kendra Yoder**'s refrain to our Senegal SST group: "There is danger in a single story." I seek out his wife, who hesitantly shares her concerns about his relapse into injection drug use. With the broader understanding from this story, our team recognizes the signs of wound botulism and obtains antitoxin from the CDC, on Thanksgiving of all days. I give thanks with his wife as he recovers.

During my time at Goshen College, I realized my calling might involve living out the college's motto quite literally through my work as a physician. My liberal arts education nurtured curiosity, compassion, humility, critical thinking and the courage to stand up for peace and justice. The settings may have changed — from choir rehearsal rooms, biochemistry labs, and classrooms to clinics and intensive care units — but the calling remains the same: healing the world, peace by peace.

BY **DANIEL JAMES '24**
News and Media Manager

Career pathways in the humanities

DANIEL JAMES '24

Students can perform in theater performances such as 2025's RENT, while simultaneously studying production or backstage work and focusing on career-oriented study.

Goshen College alumni have found ways to serve their community in a wide variety of careers. But today, students — especially those at liberal arts institutions — are increasingly looking for ways that college explicitly prepares them for their professional careers. As a result, professors in the humanities have been adapting their curriculum to introduce clear and helpful career preparation, while still ensuring that GC's focus on educating the whole person stays front and center. Here are a few of the examples:

Art: Post-grad planning from the start

Most art programs treat career prep as a senior-year afterthought. Goshen's art faculty start the conversation at orientation. Professor **Sara Method**, associate professor of art and department chair, works backward from each student's goals to build a personalized path through one of a variety of concentrations, including entrepreneurship, studio art, pre-architecture, pre-art therapy and education, with each one engineered to meet the specific prerequisites of real jobs and graduate programs.

Theater: Careers on and off the stage

Amy Budd, associate professor of theater, has a clear message to her students: graduate prepared to work, not to wait. "Our goal is for you to move into the world," she said, "and if you choose to keep working, you are able to grow and adapt and function in a fast-paced, changing environment." The restructured major ditches rigid concentrations so students can double major, specialize through production work, and enter industries from live events to traditional stage.

History: Clear pre-law preparation

To better meet the needs of aspiring legal students, the history department created a new major — history pre-law — rather than simply a concentration within the history major. The major achieves two clear objectives: it sets students up for success in the legal field, and it creates a pathway to draw an explicit connection between history and legal studies — a connection that many first-generation college or legal students weren't aware of.

Library Science: Career-focused additions alongside majors

When Indiana changed how it credentials librarians, Goshen built the only undergraduate library science program in the state to respond. Students of any major can earn the certificate — and walk across the graduation stage already qualified for roles that would otherwise require years of additional credentialing.

Writing and Publishing: English with a twist

AI isn't a threat to Writing and Publishing graduates — it's job security. "People are going to be looking for authenticity," said **Jessica Baldanzi**, professor of English and department chair. The redesigned major trains students to do what AI can't: catch what's wrong, fix what's weak, and shape content that actually holds up. Hands-on work with Short Stack Letterpress downtown makes the craft tangible.

Spanish: Communicating throughout community

Spanish majors don't just study interpretation — they practice it, logging 40 hours per semester inside real schools, clinics and community organizations across Elkhart County. As professor **Cristobal Garza Gonzalez** associate professor of Spanish, said, "Students enter those rooms as somebody who has a knowledge and skill to offer."

Criminal and Restorative Justice: Values and vocation

"Some students find their calling during their internships," said **Robert Brenneman**, professor of criminal justice and sociology and department chair of Criminal Justice/Restorative Justice (CJRJ). "That internship, I'm convinced, is the most valuable thing they get." In the CJRJ major, students don't study justice in the abstract — they observe it in courts, jails and community programs before stepping into it professionally.

For Humanities students, the question, "What will you do with that degree?" hasn't gone away. But at Goshen College, more departments have a very specific answer ready.

BY **DAN KOOP LIECHTY '88,**
Director of Alumni Engagement & International Student Adviser

Till we meet again

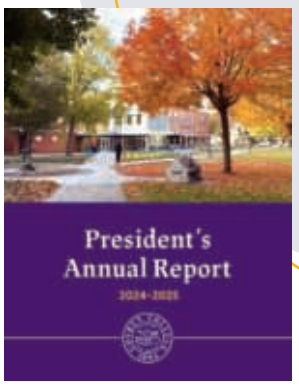
MY PROFESSIONAL CONNECTION to Goshen College began in 1988, when Sociology Professor Emeritus **J. Howard Kauffman** hired me as a research assistant for his work on North American Mennonite beliefs and social patterns. Though not formally employed by the college, I worked out of an office in the Kulp basement during that year. As that project concluded, I began my nearly 40-year career in higher education as an admissions counselor at GC. It was a role I held for three meaningful years before my wife, **Jill '90**, and I left for graduate school at Michigan State University (MSU).

While at MSU, we were involved in the campus Mennonite fellowship, and I found myself reflecting deeply on Mennonite higher education. That interest shaped my doctoral dissertation, *A Delicate Balance: Faith, Status, and Marketing at a Mennonite Liberal Arts College*, which explored the relationship between Goshen College and Mennonite Church USA.

After graduate school, we spent many happy years in the Lansing area, where our three children were born, and I continued my work at MSU. Eventually, Jill and I felt called to live abroad and accepted positions at Woodstock School in India. Woodstock is an institution with personal significance, as I had first lived there in 1969 when my father, **Russel Liechty '53**, GC professor and dean emeritus, founded the school's counseling program during a GC sabbatical year. I later spent my seventh-grade year in boarding school at Woodstock, when my parents were serving in Nepal.

When Jill and I took our family to Woodstock in 2006, we worked together in that same counseling program my father started, with me helping students navigate college admission processes around the world. Through those relationships, more than 35 Woodstock students ultimately enrolled at Goshen College since we were there. After three years in India, we returned briefly to Michigan before feeling a call to return to Goshen 15 years ago. This final GC chapter of my higher education career has been among the most meaningful.

Now, as I prepare to conclude my time at GC, Jill and I have been invited to return once more to Woodstock School. Though we were initially hesitant, the opportunity for one last adventure proved compelling, and we will head back to India this summer. Leaving Goshen College is bittersweet, and it's hard to imagine reaching this stage of life and career. Still, we look forward to this new chapter and, in time, to returning to Goshen to fully retire. In the meantime, the college is seeking my successor, and I wholeheartedly recommend this director role to anyone interested.



2024-25 President's Annual Report available

Goshen College's 2024-25 President's Annual Report is available for viewing online at **goshen.edu/about/annual-reports**. It is one opportunity to reflect back on the past year and show the impact of the support we receive for our students and mission during the past fiscal year.

Stay connected with classmates and other alums

Connect GC: Our alumni network of 20,000+ individuals is spread around the world, but we can be a vital resource to each other. Maybe you are looking to make a hire and know that a Goshen College grad would be a great fit. Maybe you've lost touch with an old friend and want to reconnect. Maybe you wish you knew if there were other alums living close by to get to know. With our online alumni directory, Connect GC, all of those ways of connecting are easy. Join us at: **connect.goshen.edu**

Facebook: Another way to stay in touch with people from your class is through Facebook. Each class from 1950 to the present has a dedicated Facebook group. In addition to catching up and connecting, you can post photos, add files, create events and share memories with your former classmates. You can even invite other class members to join if they haven't already. Simply search for "Goshen College Class of (your year)" in the Facebook search bar

And stay connected with us online, too

- Stay in touch with what's happening at Goshen College by subscribing to the various e-newsletters that we publish regularly at **goshen.edu/news**.
- Find us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

CLASS REUNION = Reunion year at **Homecoming 2026** on Oct. 2–4

NEWS & NOTES

Alumni Connections

1940-49

CLASS OF 1961+

DEATHS

Helen Witmer Burkholder '49, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, died Feb. 16, 2025.

Mabel Eshleman, wife of **D. Rohrer Eshleman '45**, 2001 Harrisburg Pike, Apt. BB424, Lancaster PA 17601, died March 13, 2026.

Pauline Birkey Kingery '46, Peoria, Ill., died Nov. 30, 2025.

Adele Haddad McCarus '48, Ann Arbor, Mich., died April 28, 2025.

Robert W. Studer '45, Smithville, Ohio, died Aug. 27, 2025.

Lucille Graber Swartzendruber '47, Goshen, died Nov. 7, 2025.

Audrey Shamory Yoder '46, Goshen, died Oct. 11, 2025.

1950-59

CLASS OF 1961+

NOTES

John Lederach '57, Goshen, retired professor, pastor and marriage counselor, had an exhibit at the Goshen Historical Society Museum featuring his work on conflict, predominantly with watercolor and pen.

Mary Buhler Saenz '50, Mountain Lake, Minn., celebrated her 100th birthday on Feb. 20, 2026.

DEATHS

Phyllis Lauver Beck '59, wife of **Ervin Beck '59 (faculty '67-03)**, 1801 Greencroft Blvd., Apt. 338, Goshen IN 46526, died Jan. 24, 2026.

Jeanette Miller Beyeler '56, Wooster, Ohio, died March 18, 2025.

Thelma Bixler, wife of **James Bixler '59**, 1732 Atlantic Ave., Elkhart IN 46514, died Dec. 21, 2025.

Velma P. Blosser '58, Salem, Ohio, died April 10, 2025.

Paul E. Conrad '52, husband of **Ann Burkholder Conrad '82**, 7800 Dayton Springfield Rd., Apt. C7, Fairborn OH 45324, died Feb. 4, 2026.

Virginia Nafziger Doehrmann '51, Archbold, Ohio, died Dec. 14, 2025.

Catharine Brunk Eash '54, Sandusky, Ohio, died Aug. 16, 2025.

Elizabeth Albrecht Eberle '58, Littleton, Colo., died Nov. 15, 2025.

Alvin R. Graber '58, husband of **Dolores Kauffman Graber '59**, 26639 County Rd. 50, Nappanee IN 46550, died Feb. 5, 2026.

Ronald D. Graber '52, husband of **Esther Buckwalter Graber '52**, 214 River Vista Dr., Goshen IN 46526, died Oct. 4, 2025.

Esther Beyeler Gray '52, Spring Valley, Calif., died Feb. 28, 2025.

Helen King Hostetler '51, Goshen, died Dec. 12, 2025.

Marian E. Hostetler '54, Goshen, died March 8, 2026.

John S. Kauffman '50, Marshallville, Ohio, died Oct. 5, 2025.

Ruth Kauffman, wife of **Clifford L. Kauffman '57**, 2700 Patrick Henry Blvd., #225, Stockbridge GA 30281, died Jan. 1, 2025.

David C. Leatherman '55, Goshen, died Oct. 10, 2025.

Marilyn Baker Lehman '57, Albany, Ore., died March 12, 2026.

Edwin C. Leichty '50, husband of Jean Leichty, 301 W. 3rd St., Apt. 14, Wayland IA 52654, died April 27, 2025.

Robert D. Lerch '56, Goshen, died Oct. 28, 2025.

Julia Smucker Penner '50, Mountain Lake, Minn., died Jan. 4, 2026.

Frances R. Prough '57, LaGrange, Ind., died Jan. 17, 2025.

Ralph E. Rheinheimer '57, husband of Carol Rheinheimer, 6471 Chippewa Rd., Orrville OH 44667, died March 12, 2026.

Pauline Miller Rhine '51, Kokomo, Ind., died March 26, 2026.

Lola Kennel Roth '54, Albany, Ore., died July 4, 2025.

Patricia Brenneman Santiago '53, Lancaster, Pa., died Jan. 18, 2026.

James E. Shellenberger '56, Bryan, Ohio, died July 25, 2025.

Juanita Brenneman Shenk '57, Goshen, died March 14, 2026.

Doris Good Shoemaker '53, Bloomington, Ill., died Sept. 13, 2025.

Robert J. Smith '52, Lakeland, Fla., died Sept. 29, 2025.

Geneva Steiner Smucker '59, Orrville, Ohio, died Jan. 18, 2026.

Donald L. Sommer '52, husband of **Linda Zuercher Sommer '61** 939 Portage Rd., Wooster OH 44691, died March 18, 2026.

Henry W. Soward '59, Sarasota, Fla., died Nov. 18, 2025.

Earl L. Sutter '52, Goshen, died Nov. 29, 2025.

Rachel Lambright Troyer '58, Goshen, died Oct. 10, 2025.

Nelson N. Waybill '58, Harrisonburg, Va., died Feb. 16, 2026.

1960-69

CLASS OF 1961+ CLASS OF 1966

NOTES

Don Bacher '69 and Judy Bacher, Albany, Ore., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Nov. 25, 2025. 1

Abner Hershberger '60 (faculty '62-99), Goshen, Goshen College professor emeritus of art, had his 1972 serigraph print "Blue Interval" selected as the album front cover for Brooklyn-based electronic musician Oneohtrix Point Never's 2025 album, "Tranquilizer." 2

Fred Hostetler '67 of Whidbey Island in Langley, Wash., returned to Goshen in October 2025 for a one-night engagement at Ignition Music Garage, to celebrate the release of his newest, and possibly last album, "Blues Back Pages."

Jep Hostetler '62, Goshen, presented "Our Amazing Bodies and How They Work ... or Don't Revisited" as part of the fall 2025 Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County.

Imo Jeanne Yoder Johnson '65, Michigan City, Ind., published a memoir, "The Other Side" (Independently published, 2025), under her maiden name. It can be purchased through Amazon.

Gerald Kaufman '61 and **L. Marlene Cender Kaufman '61**, Brownstown, Pa., self-published their life stories in 2025: "From Soap Hollow to the Sangamon River."

Susanne King '66, Richmond, Mass., self-published a memoir, "Feed My Lambs — From a Mennonite Farm to Child Psychiatry".

Jon Smucker '64, Goshen, loaned his restored Albany sleigh, a one-horse open cutter developed by James Gould of Albany, N.Y., about 1851, to the Goshen Historical Society for display in the north window of the museum during the winter holidays.

Jerry Wittrig '67 and **Ruth Ann Miller Wittrig '71**, Goshen, were honored with the 2025 Everence Journey Award. The annual award recognizes people of faith who use their gifts to benefit others and the world. "... have spent day after day doing the kinds of things that we thought Jesus would do if he was here." 3

Joann Yoder '63, Goshen, presented "A Virtual Visit to France" as part of the 2025 fall lecture series of the Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County.

DEATHS

John P. Baer '65, husband of **Kathryn Ulrich Baer '66**, 288 Cherry St., Wauseon OH 43567, died Dec. 19, 2025.

Elizabeth Hostetler Berry '61, (faculty '65-72 and '73-88), wife of **Lee Roy Berry (faculty '71-10)**, 1801 Greencroft Blvd., Apt. 132, Goshen IN 46526, died March 30, 2026.

Roger J. Birkey '61, South Lake Tahoe, Calif., died June 22, 2025.

Harold E. Cross '60, husband of Lena Fabiani-Cross, 6130 N. Cale Matamoros, Tucson AZ 85750, died May 12, 2025.

Darrell D. Diener '64, husband of **Leona Saxton Diener '64**, 1300 Greencroft Dr., Apt. 214, Goshen IN 46526, died Oct. 18, 2025.

Lillian Bartel Elias '67, wife of Jacob Elias, 1705 Garland Dr., Goshen IN 46526, died Jan. 18, 2026.

Clifford D. Frey '60, Goshen, died Sept. 28, 2025.

Melvin I. Glick '63, husband of **Beulah Clemens Glick '65**, 424 S. Peck Ave., LaGrange IL 60525, died Sept. 15, 2025.

Gerald M. Gross '64, Syracuse, N.Y., died Oct. 18, 2025.

Sharon Helmuth, wife of **Mervin R. Helmuth '69 (faculty '70-11)**, 712 S. 3rd St., Goshen IN 46526, died Dec. 12, 2025.

Daniel E. Hochstetler '63, husband of Arianne Hochstetler, 1300 Greencroft Dr., Apt. 141, Goshen IN 46526, died March 16, 2026.

Geneva Smucker Horst '60, Orrville, Ohio, died March 31, 2026.

Jerald R. Hostetler '66, husband of Betty Hostetler, 430 Emeril Ct., Orrville OH 44667, died Nov. 9, 2025.

Verl L. Kauffman, husband of **Miriam Yoder Kauffman '66**, 18192 Wagon Wheel Dr., Goshen IN 46526, died Oct. 11, 2025.

Randall Kaufman, husband of **Grace Weaver Kauffman '65**, 26648 County Rd. 30, Elkhart IN 46517, died Nov. 26, 2025.

Vernon L. King '67, Goshen, died Nov. 2, 2025.

Wayne D. Lambright '62, Goshen, died Feb. 17, 2026.

Ray S. Landis '60, Goshen, died March 4, 2026.

M. Earl Meck '68, Cape Canaveral, Fla, died Nov. 9, 2025.

Leroy C. Miller '66, Goshen, died Dec. 7, 2025.

Donna Moser, wife of **Dale Moser '66**, P.O. Box 74, Beaver Falls NY 13305, died Dec. 22, 2025.

Florence Huber Riehl '61, Stratford, Ontario, Canada, died Jan. 27, 2026.

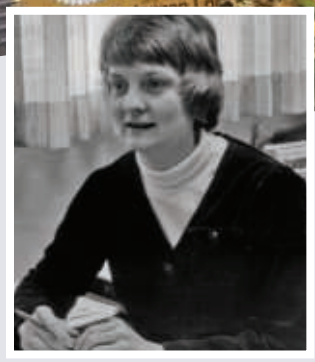
Nancy Mast Rittenhouse '64, wife of **Jacob Rittenhouse '64**, 6511 W. Alice Ave., Unit 115, Glendale AZ 85302, died Nov. 7, 2025.

Denzel R. Short '60, husband of Merna Short, 35700 Hunter Ave., Apt. 101, Westland MI 48185, died Feb. 27, 2025.

Larry D. Short '60, husband of Janet Short, 808 Farber Rd., Archbold OH 43502, died Nov. 7, 2025.

Ralph M. Smucker '61, husband of Nevie Smucker, 6224 Edwards Mountain Cv., Austin TX 78731, died Sept. 16, 2025.

Russel A. Yoder '61, husband of Charlene Yoder, 1403 Ruby Ave., Kansas City KS 66103, died March 22, 2026.



Celebrating the *More-with-Less* cookbook

The *More-with-Less* cookbook, written by late alum **Doris Janzen Longacre '61**, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The popular Mennonite cookbook has sold over 800,000 copies worldwide and is revered by Mennonites and many others who appreciate the invitation to eat simply and healthily.

The recipes in *More-with-Less* are interspersed with commentary by Janzen Longacre, and suggestions at the end of each unit provide creative ideas on how to serve leftovers. Aside from the recipes, the book begins with four introductory chapters: world food shortages and the typical North American diet; personal motivation for simple eating; ways of building a simple diet; and joy and creativity in meal planning.

Per the request of Janzen Longacre, who served with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) in Vietnam from 1964 to 1967 and in Indonesia in 1971-72, all royalties from the sale of the cookbook have been donated to MCC. Janzen Longacre died of cancer in 1979.

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Karene Zimmerman, wife of **Mark B. Zimmerman '66**, 1001 E. Oregon Rd., Lititz PA 17543, died Feb. 22, 2026.

1970-74 CLASS OF 1971

NOTES

Ruth and **Jonathan Beachy '72** spent 30 years in Paraguay caring for the "least of these." Afterward, they worked for a decade as nurses in San Antonio, Texas, during which time, Jonathan completed the requirements to practice as a clinical psychologist in Paraguay, and the pair returned there in 2016, providing spiritual and mental health care to prison inmates and their families. Jonathan's role expanded, and he now advocates for inmates and supports public defenders. Recently, their ministry has focused on "breaking bread" weekly with the most rejected and marginalized prisoners. Though retired, the Beachys remain engaged in their calling, saying that their "children are scattered across three continents, but it feels right to be settled in the place they, and we, truly call home." 4

Arden Shank '74, Goshen, presented "How White People Accumulated Wealth and Power" as part of the 2025 fall Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County.

DEATHS

James Butti, husband of **Linda Stalter Butti '73**, 813 Market St., Scottdale PA 15683, died Feb. 14, 2026.

Laura Sue Kennell Dueck '70 (staff '95-01), wife of Allen Dueck, 7108 Bridle Path Ln., Hyattsville MD 20782, died Jan. 30, 2026.

Harry Dyck '73, husband of Lois Dyck, 24315 Park Shore Dr., Elkhart IN 46517, died Dec. 5, 2025.

Jay L. Hershberger, husband of **Beverly Milne Hershberger '70**, 19794 U.S. Hwy. 6, New Paris IN 46553, died Feb. 6, 2026.

Bradley A. Miller '71, husband of **Cheryl Speicher Miller '71**, 1733 Amberwood Dr., Goshen IN 46526, died March 14, 2026.

Mitchell Najar, husband of **Kathleen Stalter Najar '71**, 1923 Beckner St., Goshen IN 46526, died Jan. 29, 2026.

John H. Watson '71, husband of Thomas Archer, P.O. Box 759, Douglas MI 49406, died Feb. 1, 2025.

James C. Word '72, Washington, D.C., died Aug. 7, 2025.

1975-79 CLASS OF 1976

NOTES

Leonard Beechy '75, Goshen, presented "Reading the Bible as an Adult" as part of the fall 2025 Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County. The class focused on unlearning the trauma experienced in childhood from the Bible.

Rebecca Haarer '75, Shipshewana, Ind., began collecting antique Amish quilts soon after graduating from GC. An exhibit of her Amish quilts is on display at the Good Library until Oct. 8, 2026.

Lynda Hollinger-Janzen '78, Goshen, retired from Mennonite Mission Network in October 2025 after 43 years with Mennonite mission agencies. After 24 years as a writer and decades of global service, her legacy spans continents, roles and a commitment to holistic ministry. 5

Laurie Neumann Nafziger '78, Goshen, presented "Mental Health in 2026: Nine Things to Know About Oaklawn" as part of the 2026 lecture series of the Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County. In February, Nafziger was named the 2026 Woman of Influence by the South Bend Regional Chamber of Commerce at their annual Salute to Business luncheon. Nafziger, president and CEO of Oaklawn Psychiatric Center since 2006, has worked at Oaklawn for nearly 40 years and has guided the organization with compassion, strengthening access to quality mental and behavioral healthcare across northern Indiana, building Oklawn into a regional leader in community-centered care. 6

Jeff Rasley '75, Indianapolis, Ind., published "Justice Betrayed — The Rise and Fall of a Death Penalty Crusader" (Midsummer Books, 2025) in paperback and eBook. 7

DEATHS

Sherman W. Kauffman '77, husband of Betty Kauffman, 1438 Canterbury Ct., Goshen IN 46526, died Dec. 6, 2025.

Rita Mayberry Menges '77, wife of David Menges, 18890 County Rd. 20, Goshen IN 46528, died Nov. 7, 2025.

Karen Detwiler Nofsinger '77, Kentwood, Mich., died Feb. 6, 2026.

Merle R. Snyder '76, husband of **Mary Alderfer '76**, 695 Grant St., Denver Co 80209, died March 25, 2025.

1980-84 CLASS OF 1981

NOTES

Dale Bowman '80, Homewood, Ill., retired in November 2025 after 29 years as the outdoors columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times.

Tim Brenneman '81, Tifton, Ga., retired in September 2025 after 39 years on the faculty of the department of plant pathology at the University of Georgia. He spent his career at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station, conducting research on improving disease control on peanuts and pecan. Having trained graduate students and post-docs, he enjoyed teaching and was inspired by Dr. Frank Bishop, biology faculty at Goshen. His research led to more than 180 published studies. He also helped develop 11 new peanut varieties that are more resistant to disease and pests, reducing the need for pesticides. One of his career highlights was discovering pecan truffles, including a new species called Tuber brennemanii. He was active in many professional organizations and recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Peanut Council.

Susan Mast '84 and S. Brett Tomlinson, Lancaster, Pa., were married on Dec. 21, 2025. They are both semi-retired.

Dan Nafziger '83, representing Goshen Health, is a member of the Goshen Chamber of Commerce's board.

Dan Schrock '81, Goshen, retired in May 2025 from his roles as curriculum specialist

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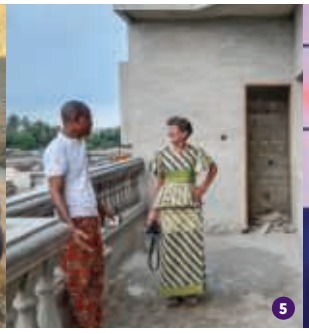
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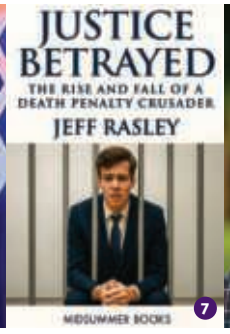

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for the doctor of ministry in leadership program and core adjunct faculty member at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary after 12 years of service. 8

Rachel Shank Shenk '80, an artisan baker for 30 years, has been writing about food, traveling and the good life in a column, "La Bonne Vie," for about 10 years in The Goshen News.

Edmund Sprunger '83 is a psychoanalyst in private practice and serves as director of community education at the St. Louis (Mo.) Psychoanalytic Institute. He also continues to teach violin and write about the intersection of music and psychotherapy.

Karen Sherer Stoltzfus '81, Goshen, retired in December 2025 from her role as executive assistant for the president and vice president and academic dean at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary after eight years of service. 9

Tony Stoltzfus '83, Redding, Calif., published his 21st book, "Heaven: Experience the Extraordinary," (Coach22Bookstore LLC, 2025). He has trained Christian life coaches for 25 years, most recently with Leadership MetaFormation. 10

Diane Bontrager Woodworth '83, Goshen, began serving as interim superintendent for Wawasee Community Schools in January 2026.

Cheryl Troyer Zehr '80, Elkhart, Ind., retired in August 2025 from her role as executive assistant for the church leadership center at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary after 13 years of service. 11

DEATHS

Michael S. Byrd, husband of **Linda Hartter Byrd '80**, 528 Crystal Ridge, Middlebury IN 46540, died April 15, 2025.

Lynette M. Kennel '82, Mechanicsburg, Pa., died Nov. 19, 2025.

Julia Lehman, wife of **Lynn Lehman '80**, 3210 Parkrise Ct., Garland TX 75044, died Jan. 7, 2026.

Lonnie L. Sears '84, husband of **Sandra Graber Sears '85**, 1537 S. County Rd. 675 E., Paoli IN 47454, died Oct. 31, 2025.

1985-89

CLASS OF 1986

NOTES

Doug Amstutz '86, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, retired from his role as half-time development associate for Canada for Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary after five years of service on Jan. 31, 2026. He is continuing as half-time pastor of Mannheim Mennonite Church, Kitchener. 12

Eric Dyck Hilty '89, Elkhart, Ind., is working as a development representative for Mennonite Mission Network. He engages donors and supporters of MMN's partnership and ministries, coordinates fundraising efforts and strengthens the network connections between the agency, its supporters and its partners. 13

Sally Hunsberger '86, Washington, D.C., was named acting director of the Office of Biostatistics for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID).

Douglas Day Kaufman '89, Goshen, presented a keynote address, "The Gospel of All Creatures: God's Cruciform Presence in Creation," at the seventh Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship in September 2025 at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Monica Denney Markel '88, San Antonio, Texas, is working as a nurse investigator for the State of Texas' department of health and human services. She investigates abuse, neglect and exploitation of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Matthew Steiner '88, Avon, Ind., is the medical director/owner of Gameday Men's Health in Bargersville, Ind. The clinic offers medical services involving men's health, wellness and fitness issues, including hormonal replacement therapy, weight loss, musculoskeletal and pain treatment, sexual health, IV therapy, peptides and a full-service lab. The clinic has the only OMNIWave hyperfocused ultrasound machine in Indiana to use for treating musculoskeletal and pain.

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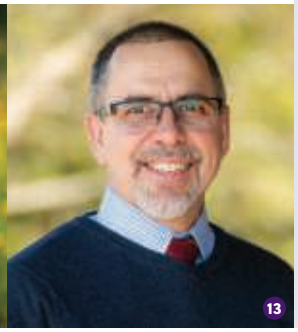
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Weaver honored for 50 years of marine bio program

Carl Weaver '69, Goshen, was honored at the Goshen High School (GHS) 50th year celebration of the school's marine biology program. Weaver has led a trip each year with students from GHS and other local high schools to the Goshen College J.N. Roth Marine Biology Station for the last 50 years, where the students study coastal marine habitats and foster community. Weaver previously described the trip as "a different kind of education — one without four walls."

On this year's trip, which featured 69 students from four area high schools, Weaver was honored with a ceremony at the marine biology station. Bruce Halle, mayor of Layton, Fla. spoke about the long-standing connection between Goshen and the local community, and others shared about the history of conservation efforts around Long Key.

As part of the celebration, Goshen High School students, teachers and families presented Weaver with a commemorative bench placed on the station dock, recognizing the 50-year legacy of the program and its collaboration between GC and Goshen High.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Gibson recognized in national Hall of Fame

David Gibson '80, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., will be inducted into the American Swimming Coaches Association (ASCA) Hall of Fame in September at the ASCA world clinic in Orlando. The ASCA Hall of Fame honors coaches whose careers have made a lasting impact on the sport of swimming through excellence in coaching, leadership and service.

Gibson has devoted more than 51 years to coaching and developing swimmers at the club, high school, collegiate, national and Olympian levels. He currently serves as the head coach at Swim Fort Lauderdale, where he founded and built the program into a USA Swimming Level 4 Club, doubling it in size and producing multiple Olympic Trials athletes and Florida high school state champions.

Earlier in his career, he coached multiple swimmers who would become Olympians, including Ricky Berens, the 2008 and 2012 gold medalist in the 800-meter freestyle relay. Gibson has won Coach of the Year in three states, and has already been inducted into the Indiana Swimming Hall of Fame.

1990-94 CLASS OF 1991

NOTES

Suella Lehman Gerber '94, Goshen, ended as interim pastor at College Mennonite Church in September 2025.

Becky Whitmer Helmuth '94, New Paris, Ind., was ordained at North Goshen Mennonite Church on Oct. 12, 2025.

April Hicks Lo '93, Chicago, Ill., a lay leader at Chicago Community Mennonite Church, completed the journey missional leadership development program of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Ind., in 2025. 14

Keith Miller '91, Harrisonburg, Va., published a fourth novel, "The Witch's Journey" (Elsewhen Press, 2025).

Maynard Miller '90 (staff '23-present), Goshen, graduated from GC's master of business administration program in 2025. For three years he worked as the admissions counselor for adult and graduate programs and since November 2025 he is working as a major gift officer in the advancement office. **Emily Lehman Miller '95** is working as a triage nurse for Goshen Physicians.

Steve Norton '91, Goshen, concluded his time in October 2025 as assistant director of the journey missional leadership development program and church leadership center program coordinator at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary after six years of service. He now serves as pastor at Union Center Church of the Brethren. 15

Lori Shreiner '92, Goshen, assistant superintendent of secondary education for Goshen Community Schools, who is continuing her current job, assumed a temporary leadership role at Goshen High School in January 2026 following the retirement of the principal in December.

Brenda Wyse Summers '93 operates Catitude Café in downtown Goshen. Visitors to the cat café can pay for a block of time to spend on comfortable couches and chairs while enjoying the company of the multitude of rescued felines. If a cat chooses one of the customers, it can be adopted on the spot, following a short application and vetting process.

Anthony Swinehart '92, professor of biology and curator of the D.M. Fisk Museum of Natural History at Hillsdale (Mich.) College, has had a new species named in his honor. Earltonella swineharti LoDuca 2025 is a fossil marine macro-alga from the Silurian of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan discovered by Swinehart and named and described by Dr. Steve LoDuca, a leading paleo-phycologist at Eastern Michigan University.

Phil Wiens '92, Nappanee, Ind., was promoted to chief growth officer at Interra Credit Union, Goshen, after more than three decades of service. In his new role, he will be responsible for driving sustainable growth in lending and deposits through market expansion strategies, product innovation, business development and overall revenue enhancement.

DEATH

Timothy P. Helmuth '91, Bloomington, Ill., died Jan. 2, 2026.

1995-99 CLASS OF 1996

NOTES

Amy Gingerich '99, Hudson, Ohio, has been appointed executive director and publisher for a third four-year term for MennoMedia. 16

Britt Kaufmann '96, Milford, Ind., received two national awards in January 2026 for her book of poetry. The National Association of Independent Writers and Editors selected "Midlife Calculus" (Press 53, 2024) as the winner in its poetry book category. The Book Awards at Independent Publishers of New England gave the poetry collection a silver distinction. The book loosely chronicles the year Kaufmann worked as a high school math tutor while simultaneously taking calculus for the first time.

Gina Leichty '96, Goshen, was honored at the Junior Achievement & Lemonade Day Annual Business Legacy Gala Hall of Fame in November 2025 with the Helen Murray Free Recognition for Women In/Owned Business award. Also in November, the Goshen Historical Society opened a display, "Notable Goshen Women," which included Gina as the first woman elected as mayor of Goshen.

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Joni Sancken '98, holder of the Butler Chair of Homiletics and Biblical Interpretation at the Vancouver School of Theology, has been appointed vice president of VST. Her recent work brings preaching into dialogue with trauma studies and conflict transformation. 17

Aaron Sawatsky-Kingsley '97, Goshen city's urban forester and director of the department of environmental resilience, writes a column, "Naturalized Mid-American," for The Goshen News.

Kyle Schlabach '99 (faculty '06-present), Goshen, began as a pastoral team member at East Goshen Mennonite Church in October 2025.

Chad Smoker '96, Milford, Ind., joined Goshen Physicians Family Medicine New Paris, providing complete care for patients of all ages. Before joining Goshen Physicians, he ran a successful family medicine practice for more than 20 years in western North Carolina.

Tara Swartzendruber-Landis '99, Goshen, began in August 2025 as caterer in residence at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. 18

2000-04 CLASS OF 2001

NOTES

Rafael Barahona '01 completed his term as board chair of the Goshen Chamber of Commerce in December 2025.

Alicia Miller Perez '02, San Antonio, is running for judge of County Court at Law 13 in Bexar County, Texas. She writes: "Since graduating from Goshen, my journey has taken me through public interest and immigration law, criminal defense, and now toward judicial service. Each step has deepened my belief in what Goshen taught us — that peace, justice, and community belong in every part of life, including our courts. ... Thank you for being part of a community that still grounds and guides me."

Tasara Redekop '03, Washington, D.C., has been drumming with Batalá, an all-women band playing Afro-Brazilian samba-reggae for 13 years. In 2025 she performed in Carnival in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, with the Bloco Cortejo Afro. 19

DEATH

Nancy Iwema Teitsma '01, Middlebury, Ind., died Jan. 2, 2026.

2005-09 CLASS OF 2006

NOTES

Ben Cattell Noll '09, Lancaster, Pa., works as the training and education director at the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania.

Jenna Wysong Filbrun '06, New Paris, Ind., released a second full-length collection of poems, "Running Toward Water" (Shanti Arts Publishing, 2026).

Alissa Kostyk '06, St. Augustine, Fla., as director of marketing for the Jacksonville Transportation Authority, helped to market the launch of NAVI, the first fully autonomous public transportation system in the United States.

Nicole Miazgowicz '06, Detroit, Mich., is an adjunct professor in the illustration department of the College of Creative Studies.

Laura Sharp '08 and Nick Sharp and their children Jesse and Brielle are supporting the ministries of the Mennonite Church and Colegio Americano Menno in La Mesa in Cundinamarca, Columbia. They serve in various capacities at the church and school, including English enrichment, academic support, music, relating with children and youth and outreach in La Mesa and neighboring communities. 20

DEATH

Daniel J. Cowells '06, Oakland, Calif., died July 20, 2025.

2010-14 CLASS OF 2011

NOTES

Idris Busari '13, Goshen, released a new song, "Welcome to Indiana," dedicated to the state of Indiana.

18

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Harley wins GRAMMY® with ensemble 'Alarm Will Sound'

Michael Harley '94, Columbia, S.C., is a founding member of the chamber orchestra Alarm Will Sound, which won a GRAMMY® this year for best chamber music/ensemble performance.

The group, which has been dubbed "one of the most vital and original ensembles on the American music scene" by *The New York Times*, features music from modern composers that aligns with, and pushes the boundaries of, classical music. Some of the band's genres include electronica and jazz, and they are featured in various multimedia and film productions. Alarm Will Sound has performed in Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center, the Library of Congress and various other prestigious venues.

Harley is a professor of bassoon at the University of South Carolina, where he also teaches courses in American music, coaches chamber music, and is artistic director of the award-winning Southern Exposure New Music Series, which produces four free yearly concerts. In the early 2000s, Harley taught music at Goshen College.

SETH KAUFFMAN '25

Miller recognized nationally for broadcast documentation

Tony Miller '14 was featured in an article in The Ringer, a popular sports website, focusing on his work documenting national sports broadcast statistics on his website, UnnecessarySportsResearch.com. For more than 10 years, Miller has built sprawling spreadsheets documenting every national Big Four broadcast assignment across decades of television history, drawing on network press releases, social media, video archives, newspaper records and the prior work of like-minded hobbyists.

His self-described "unnecessary" project has quietly become the de facto official record of the industry. Kenny Albert, the only sportscaster who currently announces play-by-play for all major professional sports leagues in the United States and Canada, said, "I have a huge appreciation for what [Miller] does," calling his work "incredible" and "certainly trustworthy."

Miller currently serves as the statistician for the GC athletic department, where he works at nearly every GC home matchup. You can find him at the scorers' table inputting live stats, in his office poring over spreadsheets, or sometimes even behind the mic at Bethany Christian High School, where he serves as an announcer for some of their home games.

Lewis Caskey '13 and **Maryn Munley '13 (staff '15-18)**, Waltham, Mass., celebrated the birth of Callum James on Nov. 17, 2026. Lewis works as a middle school teacher and Maryn works in higher education administration in the Boston area. 21

Stephanie Hollenberg Concannon '12 and Luke Concannon, Guilford, Vt., celebrated the birth of Oran James Barr on Nov. 24, 2024. Stephanie completed a master of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School and is a hospice chaplain in western Massachusetts. 22

Trevor Daugherty '11, Goshen, is executive director of the Northern Indiana Clay Alliance, which seeks to develop, strengthen and advance the Northern Indiana clay community through support, education, scholarship and documentation. Trevor and **Breanna Lange Daugherty '12** are publishers of Edible Michiana.

Yolo Lopez DeMarco '12, owner of YoloVox, received the 2025 Volunteer of the Year Award at the Goshen Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting and luncheon in December 2025. During the COVID pandemic, DeMarco created YoloVox, a marketing and translation company focused on a growing Hispanic community. She also is the founder of the Latino Business Expo, which seeks to foster Hispanic business growth and integration.

Charlie Frederick '13 and **Sarah Hofkamp '17**, St. Louis, Mo., were married on Oct. 4, 2025. 23

Jessica Gotwals '13 and **Brian Sutter '16**, Goshen, celebrated the birth of Lydia June Sutter on Oct. 9, 2025. She joins Luke, 2. 24

Trisha Handrich '11 (staff '20-present), Goshen, completed a master's degree in strategic communication at Purdue University — West Lafayette in December 2025 and was promoted to senior director of development at Goshen College in the fall. Now in her seventh year at GC, she enjoys working closely with alumni and friends in support of the college's students and mission. 25

Emily Trapp Jenkins '13, Kansas City, Mo., is the director of auxiliary programs at Notre Dame de Sion Schools. She also serves as an accompanist for the Allegro Children's Choir in Bonner Springs, Kan., in addition to playing regularly at KC metro area churches.

Lindsay Gangloff Kauffman '11, Goshen, a fifth grade teacher at Benton Elementary School, received the Teacher of the Year award at the 10th Annual Junior Achievement Legacy Hall of Fame Gala in November 2025.

Sunday Mahaja '14, a Goshen-based painter and sculptor whose metalwork often incorporates recycled and discarded materials, was one of four artists featured in the Black Voices Art Show at the Goshen Theater during Black History Month.

Jonathan Mark '13 is pastor of Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship in Boise, Idaho.

Jesse Ramer '14 and Chelsea Ramer, Elkhart, Ind., celebrated the birth of Tobias Paul on Jan. 30, 2026. He joins Adaline, 8, Elise, 5, Jemma, 4, and Oliver, 2. 26

Kate Walker '11 and Joshua Sapadin, West Hartford, Conn., were married on June 14, 2025. Kate is a medical dosimetrist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. 27

2015-19 CLASS OF 2016

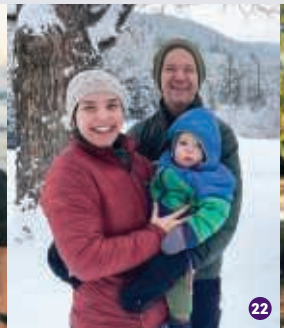
NOTES

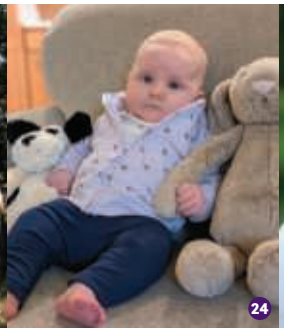
Norah Gladun Amstutz '19, Goshen, received the Best of Show award at the 48th Elkhart Juried Regional all-media competition in October 2025.

Jackson Bush '15 and **Emma Caskey '16**, Essex Junction, Vt., celebrated the birth of Arlo Loise on Sept. 12, 2025. Emma graduated from the University of Vermont with a Master of Social Work degree in May 2025. 28

Hannah Eash-Gates '17, cofounded a new nonprofit legal services organization called RISE for immigrants in San Antonio, Texas. They specialize in humanitarian visas like asylum, visas for survivors of crime and trafficking, and special immigrant juvenile status.

Joelle Friesen '17 will complete her Mayo Clinic chief medical resident position in June 2026. She matched to pulmonary and critical care medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and will start that fellowship in July 2026.





Ben Ganger '16, who first appeared on Jeopardy! in May 2025, returned to the show's Tournament of Champions Jan. 21.

Leah Stebly Ingle '17 and **Chandler Ingle '18**, Columbus, Ohio, celebrated the birth of Hazel Grace Ingle on Jan. 31, 2026. She joins Maple, 2. 29

Lynelle Leinbach '15, Perkoimenvillle, Pa., wrote and published a book, "Soundwaves Between Us" (2024), with her grandmother, Nancy Mininger. The book is based on phone conversations about Nancy's memories that Lynelle synthesized into a chronological story. Nancy reflects on her life as her world handled several cultural swings: Cold War America, Mennonite leaders questioning which parts of their identity they should maintain and which to shed, and the suburbanization of Montgomery County, Pa. 30

Monica Miller '18 began as interim pastor at Kalamazoo (Mich.) Mennonite Fellowship in August 2025.

Rowan Miller Neuville '19, Lancaster, Pa, graduated from GC's Master of Social Work program in 2025 and is working as a specialized outpatient therapist.

Mary Ramseyer Oyer '15 and **Michael Oyer '16**, Smithville, Ohio, celebrated the birth of James Landon Oyer on June 20, 2025. 31

Kelsey McKinnell Preuit '15 and August Preuit, Corvallis, Ore., celebrated the birth of Hannah Ruth Preuit on May 20, 2025. 32

Malaina Weldy Snyder '16 and Charles Snyder, Grand Rapids, Mich., celebrated the birth of Lucas David Snyder on Dec. 26, 2025. Malaina joined the house legal team at Gordon Food Service as senior legal counsel, contracts and transactions. 33

Derek Swartzendruber '15 and **Mandy Schlabach '15**, Tucson, Ariz., celebrated the birth of Jayden William Schlabach-Swartz on Dec. 29, 2025. Mandy graduated from Prescott College with a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling in August 2025. 34

2020-25 CLASS OF 2021

NOTES

Olivia Krall '23 got engaged to **Birch Baer '23**. She is in her first year of a dual masters in history and library science at IU Bloomington.

Daniel James Eash-Scott '24 (staff '24-26), will conclude his time as news and media manager at GC to attend Notre Dame Law School this fall.

Elias Gingerich '20 and **Natalie Graber '20**, Denver, Colo., were married on July 26, 2025. 35

Caroline Brunk Greaser '23, Goshen, is a graphic designer for Everence.

Grace Hitt '23 and **Isaac Bontrager '25**, Goshen, were married on Aug. 9, 2025. 36

Jonah King '23 and **Ruby Meyer '23**, New Paris, Ind., were married on Sept. 6, 2025. 37

Greta Lapp Klaassen '23, a paralegal, works on asylum and immigrant legal defense projects at the National Immigrant Justice Center in Indianapolis.

Naomi Lapp Klassen '25 won first prize in the Mennonite Central Committee's 2025 binational intercollegiate C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest. Her speech, "Engaging with Mass Incarceration: Seeking Agency and Sight," won at Goshen College's contest in February. After graduation in May 2025, she began a long-term volunteer program at Corrymeela Community, Northern Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation organization.

Olivia Koop '23 is completing the first year of a master's in biomedical engineering at Toronto (Ontario, Canada) Metropolitan University.

Maggie Lapp '25 is completing a Master of Social Work degree at Bryn Mawr College in Philadelphia, Pa.

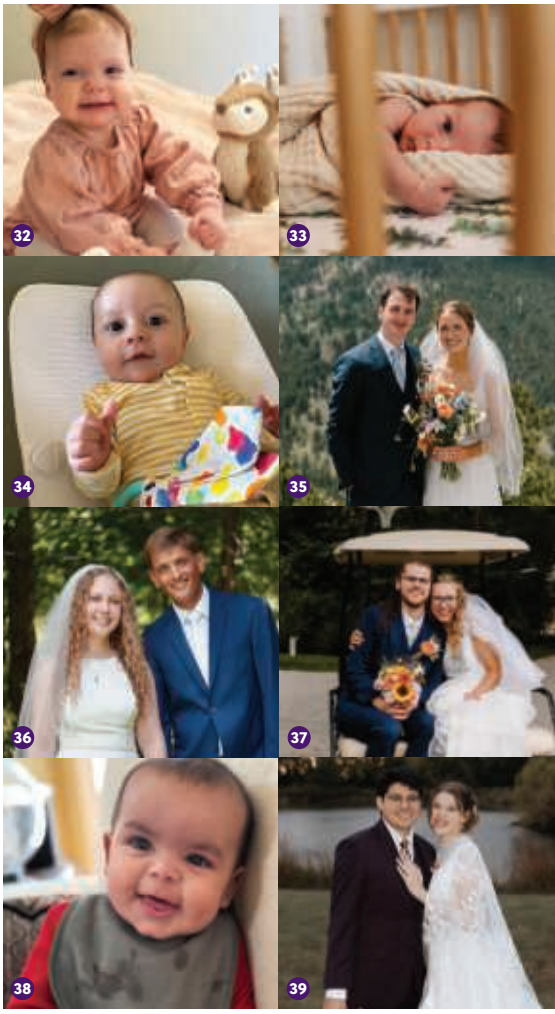
Kevin Liddell '25 is currently teaching 8th grade math at Raymond Park Middle School in Indianapolis, while pursuing a transition to teaching degree from Goshen College.

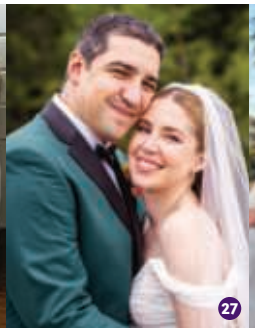
Amber Heydon McKenzie '21 and Joshua McKenzie, Goshen, celebrated the birth of Henry Ray McKenzie on Aug. 15, 2025. 38

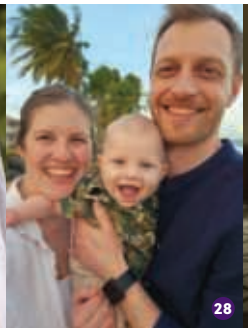
Alena Miller '23 is currently working as an environmental educator at Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis, Mich., after a year of teaching high school Spanish.

Laura Miller '21 and Eduardo Ramirez Cuellar, Overland Park, Kan., were married on Oct. 18, 2025. Laura is a family therapist at Johnson County Mental Health. 39

Talia Miller '21, Portland, Ore., completed a master's of social work degree at Portland State University in 2025 and is working as a mental health clinician in community mental health.







JULIANA CHUPP '15

Neat becomes GC's first professional women's basketball player

Zion Neat '24, Maia, Portugal, became the first women's basketball player in Goshen College history to turn professional, signing with Juvemaia in Maia, Portugal. Neat joined Goshen in 2022 after two seasons at Columbia International and averaged 14.2 points across 85 games.

Despite only playing for three seasons, she ranks 12th all-time in scoring and among program leaders in free-throw percentage, three-pointers, single-season total points and single-season field goals. "Overall, my time at Goshen helped me to understand that I am so much more than a basketball player, and it brought out the social worker in me," Neat said. "But it also helped me have a chance to be that basketball player for a few more years, and I'm forever grateful for that."

Goshen has seen successful men's basketball players play professionally overseas, but Neat has set a historic milestone for the Leafs women's basketball program.

Augusta Nafziger '23, Weyers Cave, Va., is in her final semester of a master's in music, vocal performance, at James Madison University, where she has focused on opera performance.

Jarrod Price '22 and **Emily Brandeberry '22**, Holland, Ohio, were married on June 21, 2025. 40

Elena Meyer Reimer '22 is completing the final semester of study at the New England Center for Circus Arts in Brattleboro, Vt.

Patrick Webb '21, Warsaw, Ind., is a member consultant for Interra Credit Union.

Aaron Yeakey '25, Indianapolis, Ind., is in his first year as a nurse at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in the ortho/trauma progressive unit.

Rebecca Zehr '21 performed on Saturday Night Live as a backup vocalist for Sam Smith.

Emma Zuercher '23, after spending two years of ASL interpretation in public schools in the Goshen area, is now completing the first year of a master's degree in fine arts at Indiana University Indianapolis, focusing on sculpture, particularly large scale, public installations.

DEATH

Faith A. McDonald '25, Elkhart, Ind., died March 21, 2026.

FACULTY AND STAFF

NOTES

Triest Fisher (staff '23-25), Elkhart, Ind., began as executive assistant for the president and vice president and academic dean at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in December 2025. 41

Kyle Hufford (faculty '11-present) New Paris, Ind., professor of communication, and **Anna Groff (faculty '06-present)**, Goshen, associate professor of communication, were named 2026 Faculty Champions by the Center for Community News at the University of Vermont, recognizing leadership in expanding student-powered journalism. The program provides funding, coaching and cohort-based collaboration to strengthen university-led reporting nationwide, connecting students with real-world journalism and supporting more sustainable local news ecosystems. 42

Jewel Lehman (faculty '04-present), Goshen, professor and department chair of kinesiology at Goshen College, was inducted into the Old Dominion Athletic Conference Hall of Fame in 2026. 43

Regina Shands Stoltzfus (faculty '02-present), Goshen, professor of peace, justice and conflict studies, authored the book *Resistance, Resilience, and Radical Love: Reflections on Blackness and Teaching Peace* (Tehom Center Publishing, 2025), exploring teaching peace, resilience and justice through lived experience, trauma awareness and community-centered practice 44

DEATHS

Marvin Blickenstaff (faculty '78-99), Collegeville, Pa., died Jan. 22, 2026.

Cynthia Padgett (faculty '12-14), Goshen, died Feb. 9, 2026.

DEGREE COMPLETION

DEATH

Cynthia S. Yoder '11, wife of Carlton Yoder, 57863 County Rd. 33, Middlebury IN 46540, died Oct. 2, 2025.

Contribute your life updates for the next issue!

Send your news and photos related to births, deaths, marriages, job changes, achievements, etc. to **alumni@goshen.edu** or Goshen College Alumni Office, 1700 S. Main St., Goshen, IN 46526. When sending in photos for publication, please submit digitally in the highest resolution available. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Fall Explore Goshen Day

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February 19, 2027
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Spring Explore Goshen Day

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IN MEMORIAM

MARVIN BLICKENSTAFF

(1935-2026)

Former Professor of Music

Marvin Blickenstaff, former professor of music at Goshen College, died on Friday, January 23, at his home in Pennsylvania. He was 90 years old.

Blickenstaff believed in the transformative power of music, teaching piano and pedagogy at GC from 1978 until his retirement in 1999.

"Professor Blickenstaff was a luminary in piano pedagogy, and held his students to the highest standards," said President **Rebecca Stoltzfus**. "He's had a lifelong impact on my understanding of what it means to play the piano."

In 2009, he was awarded the Music Teachers National Association Foundation's highest honor, a Lifetime Achievement Award; in 2007, he was named Fellow of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto; and in 2022, the Frances Clark Center created The Marvin Blickenstaff Institute for Teaching Excellence, an initiative to uplift and educate piano teachers while amplifying Blickenstaff's lifework.

In 2025, Blickenstaff celebrated his 90th birthday with a performance at Carnegie Hall. He also hosted a pedagogy workshop and performed at the Music Center's Piano Summer Camp, ending his illustrious performing career at Goshen College.

GABRIELLE GUNDEN

(2004-2025)

Junior social work major

Gabrielle Gunden, a junior from Sellersville, Pennsylvania, died unexpectedly on November 10 in Goshen. She was 21.

Before Goshen, she studied history at Temple University in Philadelphia, and graduated magna cum laude from Dock Mennonite Academy, where she earned the Student Achievement Award in Technology.

Known for her kind, welcoming spirit, Gabrielle supported new students and brought warmth, humor and generosity to those around her. She had a contagious laugh and sense of humor, and she was thoughtful and generous to others. She enjoyed vinyl records, basketball, ancient history and cooking, and loved her family cat, Hollis.

Gabrielle served others through work and volunteer efforts at Ten Thousand Villages and Dock Mennonite Academy, and through service projects at Bethany Birches Camp in Vermont and Academia Menonita Betania in Puerto Rico.

A baptized member of Zion Mennonite Church in Souderton, Pennsylvania, she also enjoyed fellowship and service activities with friends at at Blooming Glen Mennonite Church in Hilltown Township, Pennsylvania.

FAITH MCDONALD

(2000-2025)

Molecular biology/biochemistry '25

Faith Anne Yvonne McDonald, a December 2025 graduate, died on Saturday, March 21. She was 25 years old.

Faith was born on August 16, 2000, to Wayne and Fay McDonald in Elkhart, Indiana, where she attended Elkhart SDA School, St. Vincent and St Thomas schools.

She then graduated from Great Lakes Adventist Academy in Cedar Lake, Michigan, and attended Andrews University before transferring and completing her degree at GC.

Faith was preparing to earn her master's degree to eventually become a perfusionist, and was working at the registrar's office at Goshen Hospital after graduating.

Faith was baptized in the Elkhart Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she found community and a deep love of the Lord.

Faith was very adventurous, and loved skiing and canyoning, as well as playing and watching basketball. She never had a dull moment, with her love for traveling, music, working on mission trips with her church family and learning the Spanish language resonating throughout her life and the lives of those around her.

THE 2026-2027 SEASON

Punch Brothers	September 17, 2026
Fernando Ortega	October 14, 2026
Mariachi Los Camperos	October 30, 2026
Apollo's Fire	November 11, 2026
The Steel Wheels	December 12, 2026
Third Coast Percussion	January 29, 2027
VOCES8	February 11, 2027
Step Afrika!	February 28, 2027
International Guitar Night	March 13, 2027
Windborne	May 8, 2027

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GOSHEN COLLEGE

BY **ERIC BRADLEY**
head librarian, Mennonite Historical Library

What more can a prof do?

NO SINGLE COURSE may better define Goshen College's commitment to liberal arts education than Mary Oyer's Fine Arts class, first introduced in 1945. Originally offered as two separate second-year general education courses on art and music, Oyer combined them in 1949 into a yearlong course "about both the study of music and painting."

Often meeting in Assembly Hall (Administration Building, Room 28), Fine Arts class introduced GC students to classical art and music, included field trips to visit the Art Institute of Chicago and performances by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and featured tests demanding enough to require "a bottle of aspirin at term paper time."

The late **Owen Gingerich '51** recalled in a 1994 *Record* article that, in the course's earliest years, Oyer "had a mixed audience, from those eager to open a new window onto the culture of Western civilization to those shocked by the undraped human bodies of Renaissance paintings."

Even so, students across generations hailed the course as "legendary," "matchless," and "one of the best any college offers." Reactions to Oyer's teaching and liberal arts content varied — one writer in *Menno Pause*, GC's underground newspaper, found her perspectives inspiring:

"[Oyer] refuses to shut out the artistic avant-garde, whether it be John Cage's noises and silences, [Alberto] Giacometti's twisted sculptures, or mixed-media happenings. She attended Backdoormen [Goshen's first blues band] concerts and tried to understand them. She listened, she listens, talks, watches, responds. What more can a prof do?"

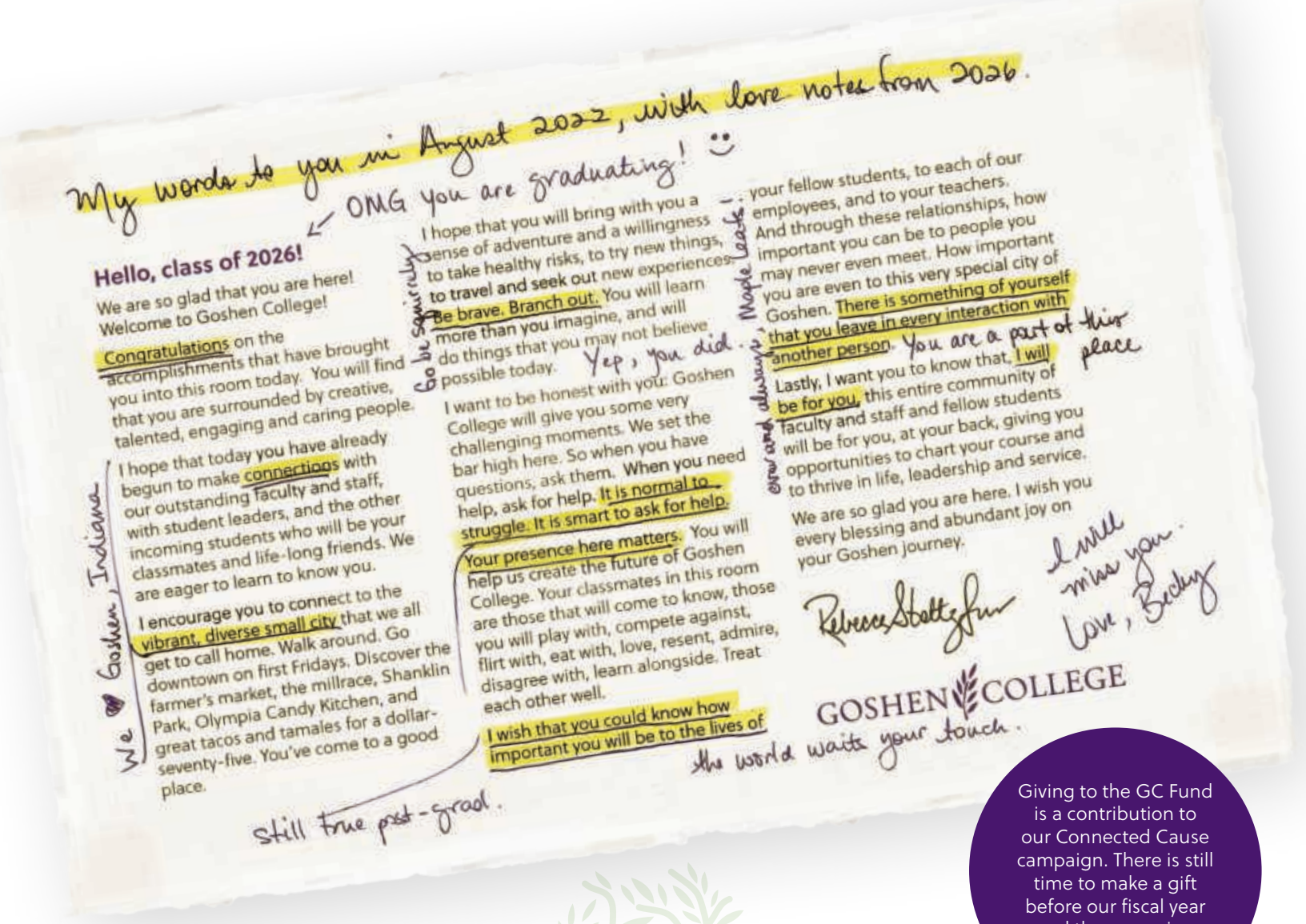
Oyer also regularly invited other faculty colleagues into classrooms, creating space for a diversity of voices. In 1968, the same year the first Study-Service Terms were launched, the course expanded its focus to include African music along with other forms of non-Western art forms, helping establish a lasting tradition of global music at Goshen College.

The Fine Arts class led many to careers in the arts and broadened the artistic appreciation of generations of Goshen College students.

Left: Mary Oyer's 1963 Maple Leaf yearbook portrait

Middle: Assembly Hall in the 1960s with Fine Arts class in session

Right: Mary Oyer in her later years, holding an African instrument. photograph by *John Tirotta*


My words to you in August 2022, with love notes from 2026.
OMG you are graduating!
Hello, class of 2026!
We are so glad that you are here! Welcome to Goshen College!
Congratulations on the accomplishments that have brought you into this room today. You will find that you are surrounded by creative, talented, engaging and caring people.
I hope that today you have already begun to make connections with our outstanding faculty and staff, with student leaders, and the other incoming students who will be your classmates and life-long friends. We are eager to learn to know you.
I encourage you to connect to the vibrant, diverse small city that we all get to call home. Walk around. Go downtown on first Fridays. Discover the farmer's market, the millrace, Shanklin Park, Olympia Candy Kitchen, and great tacos and tamales for a dollar-seventy-five. You've come to a good place.
We ♥ Goshen, Indiana
Still true post-grad.
I hope that you will bring with you a sense of adventure and a willingness to take healthy risks, to try new things, to travel and seek out new experiences. Be brave. Branch out. You will learn more than you imagine, and will do things that you may not believe possible today.
Go be squirrely
Yep, you did.
I want to be honest with you: Goshen College will give you some very challenging moments. We set the bar high here. So when you have questions, ask them. When you need help, ask for help. It is normal to struggle. It is smart to ask for help.
Your presence here matters. You will help us create the future of Goshen College. Your classmates in this room are those that will come to know, those you will play with, compete against, flirt with, eat with, love, resent, admire, disagree with, learn alongside. Treat each other well.
I wish that you could know how important you will be to the lives of
the world waits your touch.
Maple leaves and always, your fellow students, to each of our employees, and to your teachers. And through these relationships, how important you can be to people you may never even meet. How important you are even to this very special city of Goshen. There is something of yourself that you leave in every interaction with another person. You are a part of this place
Lastly, I want you to know that, I will be for you, this entire community of faculty and staff and fellow students will be for you, at your back, giving you opportunities to chart your course and to thrive in life, leadership and service.
We are so glad you are here. I wish you every blessing and abundant joy on your Goshen journey.
Rebecca Stoltzfus
I will miss you. Love, Becky
GOSHEN COLLEGE

Giving to the GC Fund is a contribution to our Connected Cause campaign. There is still time to make a gift before our fiscal year and the campaign ends on **June 30**!

She welcomed them in. Four years later, she wrote them back.

When the Class of 2026 arrived at Goshen, President Stoltzfus welcomed them to campus with words of encouragement, challenge and care. Now, as they graduate, here is that same message with handwritten "love notes" in the margins — affirming what they have become, what they mean to this community and what they will carry into the world.

That is the kind of education the **GC Fund** helps sustain: personal, transformative and rooted in belonging.

Your gift helps students be known, supported and prepared for lives of purpose.

Support the GC Fund.
Help write the next student story.
goshen.edu/give

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OCTOBER 2–4, 2026

Celebrate the end of the Connected Cause campaign on Friday night, Oct. 2, at the downtown Goshen Theater

Homecoming

For alumni *and* families of current students (parents, siblings and grandparents)

CLASS REUNION YEARS: 1961 • 1966 • 1971 • 1976 • 1981 • 1986 • 1991 • 1996 • 2001 • 2006 • 2011 • 2016 • 2021

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: Alumni awards • Homecoming convocation • Theater production • Home soccer game • Gamelan demonstration • 50th class dinner • Family bike ride • Class reunions • Hymn sing • Music Gala • Food trucks • Special facilities tours • Art exhibit reception • Presidential state of the college presentation • Tour of the Center for Nursing and Public Health

REGISTRATION OPENS IN EARLY JULY: goshen.edu/homecoming